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# THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

25

TECHNOLOGY DEPT.

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# Report to N.R.A. Members!

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## Highlights of your Association as outlined in the Annual Report made by the Secretary-Treasurer.

THE MEMBERS' MEETING at Camp Perry marked the Diamond Jubilee of the National Rifle Association of America. No other national organization of American shooter-sportsmen approaches this record of seventy-five years of continuous activity. The circulation of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN is now 203,000. More than 13,000 Life Members are on the rolls. There are more than 2,500 senior clubs and over 1,900 junior clubs. New clubs are affiliating in each class at the rate of about 60 each month. In quarter-century paragraphs, National Secretary-Treasurer C. B. Lister told the story of the N.R.A. Here is a greatly condensed version—

**1871-1895** Organized in 1871 by a group of State Militia officers and veterans of the Civil War, the N.R.A. gave America its first national shooting organization; its first International Rifle Matches and its first National Match range, built by the Association out of its own funds at Creedmoor, Long Island. Here were developed the first standard American rifle targets later adopted by the Army and still used. (The familiar "A", "B" and "C" targets.) Here also was developed the first American manual of individual marksmanship instruction adopted for use of Regular troops.

**1896-1921** Creedmoor had been forced out by real estate development but the flame kindled by the N.R.A. had spread all over America. The support of Congress was obtained in 1901 and the National Matches became an official War Department activity. Sea Girt then Camp Perry, became the American shooters' Mecca. The Smallbore rifle game began its forward march. State Civilian rifle teams made their first trips to the National Matches.

**1922-1946** Smallbore rules and targets were standardized. The Junior program was born. The Pistol and Revolver game was taken out of its moth balls to become the hobby of thousands of police, civilians and Servicemen. Women on the firing line ceased to be a novelty. The N.R.A. took the hush-hush out of firearms accidents and became the first national sportsmen's organization to institute a continuous nation-wide gun safety campaign. State and national antifirearms campaigns became a threat to the welfare of the Nation and its honest citizens. The threat continues and so does the N.R.A.'s leadership in combating it. In World War II the N.R.A. found its greatest single opportunity to prove its value to the Nation—succeeding so well that commendations were received from the President of the United States, the Chief of the Combined Chiefs of Staff, the Chief of Staff of the Army, the Navy's Bureau of Personnel, the Army's Provost Marshal General and many others. In its 75th year the N.R.A. is a national association, in fact, as well as in name. The service rifle shooter, the pistolman, the small bore rifleman, the hunter, the handloader, the amateur gunsmith, the collector, the peace officer, the school teacher, the boys' camp director are all an integral part of the Association and their interests are guarded and promoted through their mutual support of America's oldest, strongest shooter-sportsmen's organization.

**1947-1971** What is ahead in the next quarter-century? Where will the N.R.A. and the organized shooting game stand in relation to other American activities when 1971 brings our Centennial Celebration? Will we have a million Americans imbued with the love of guns and benefiting themselves and the Nation with the healthy bodies and minds, the good sportsmanship and the good citizenship that comes from days spent on the range and in the hunting field? Or will we have a Nation disarmed by unwise antifirearms laws; citizens whose only knowledge of weapons is what they have learned by visiting a museum; a race of men who have forgotten the thrill of a hard fought target match or of spicy mornings in the hunting field and who depend on a three-dollar seat in a stadium and the antics of a few professional players for their recreation?

The answer lies in the hands of the men and women, boys and girls who *are* the National Rifle Association of 1946. Let us carry on in the traditions that have made our Association great at the end of its 75th year, talk shooting, sell shooting, pull hard and pull together—and the future is insured.

## *Be Proud of Your Association . . . Tell Others!*

## THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA · 1871 - 1946

HERE is a timely way to celebrate your Association's Diamond Jubilee Anniversary: Send an NRA gift membership subscription to at least one of your shooter friends this Christmas! But don't delay. Continued paper shortages coupled with the RIFLEMAN's rapid circulation climb will certainly limit the number of gift subscriptions we can handle during the peak month of December.

So, use the accompanying gift order to prepare your list and mail right back to us, please. Each recipient you select for an NRA gift membership will receive a Christmas greeting card, announcing your gift, timed for Christmas delivery. And—if your order arrives *before* December 1—we'll find a way to stretch that limited paper supply and thus insure no delay in starting any new subscriptions on your gift list.

**Sorry, but we cannot guarantee the acceptance of gift subscriptions received in our offices later than *Monday, December 2d.***

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## Christmas Gift Order Blank

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***Enter the following Gift Membership-Subscriptions:***

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| ***—CHECK WHICH—***<br>**Your 1st Gift**<br>☐ **Annual Membership, $3.00.**<br>☐ **2 Years' Membership, $5.00.** | *Name* ................ *Age* ........<br>*Address* ................<br>*City-State* ................ | **If a Gift—**<br>***Card should read from:***<br>................ |
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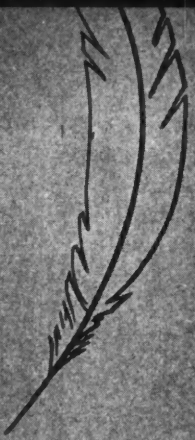
Light-as-a-feather in your hand, this 7X,35 Bausch & Lomb Zephyr-Light Binocular weighs only 18 ounces. Prewar favorite of sportsmen, hunters, fliers, the Zephyr-Lights are back, with *postwar* advantages, including Balcote, the amazing new Bausch & Lomb anti-reflection coating that greatly increases light transmission and sharpens up image contrast. Write for folder. Bausch & Lomb Optical Co., 283 Lomb Park, Rochester 2, N. Y.



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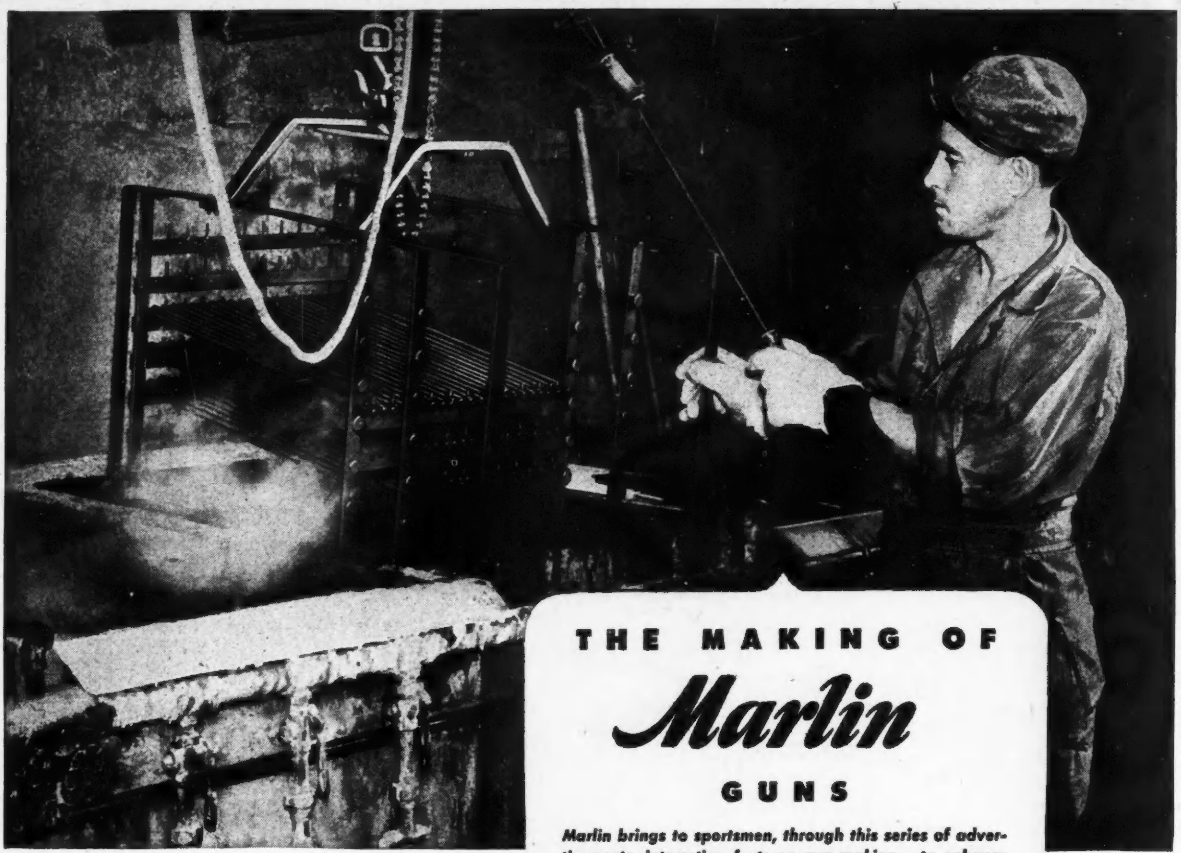

*Blueing Marlin Barrels in Chemical Reactor*

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**Marlin brings to sportsmen, through this series of advertisements, interesting facts on gun-making...to enhance appreciation of fine sporting firearms and to encourage their thoughtful handling and care.**

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Beautifully-grained hardwoods and the sheen of blued steel are a combination to delight the sportsman's eye. Great care, experience and skill go into the finish of fine sporting firearms.

Blueing of steel is a chemical process of five carefully-timed baths—(1) cleaner; (2) hot rinse; (3) chemical reactor; (4) rinse; (5) soluble oil. The blue-black finish which results is rust-resistant, handsome and practical.

*Polishing Marlin Rifle Receiver*

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Before the blue is applied, external metal parts are polished to a satin finish by expert craftsmen. Skill is at a premium also in the final hand-shaping and polishing of stocks. All-weather lacquer brings out the beauty of grain and color and contributes to long life of the firearm.

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For nearly half a century the 38 Military & Police has been the choice of thousands of law-enforcement agencies all over the world. Light but rugged, it has all the 14 famous design features and built-in craftsmanship that have won for Smith & Wessons their reputation as the most reliable sidearms ever made.

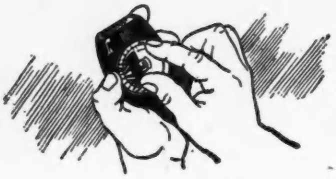
Since the end of the war we have been looking forward to the day when we could start making 22's and target models for the sportsmen of America, but first things must come first, and to date we have had to devote our entire capacity to guns suitable for law-enforcement work.

Today demand for the Military & Police is higher than ever before — higher than we dreamed was possible when we started reconversion — but our output is climbing steadily and it won't be long now before we can supplement production with the new K-22, K-32 and K-38 Masterpieces which come next on our schedule.

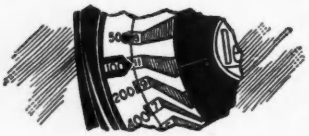
If you want a new Smith & Wesson ask your dealer to put your name on his waiting list. All orders are being filled under our traditional "First Come — First Served" policy.

**Smith & Wesson** *The Thoroughbred of the Handgun World*

SPRINGFIELD 2, MASSACHUSETTS



***What's your film speed number?*** The glass dial of calculator ring is rotatable. Adjust it so the arrow (for black-and-white) or green dot (for color) is "frozen" over the proper film speed number. DeJUR was FIRST to utilize new A. S. A. film speeds.



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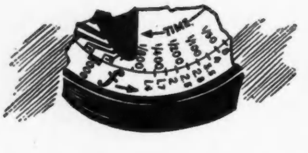

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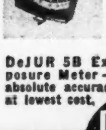
*High-precision manufacturing makes the "Autocritic" the aristocrat of meters. Electro-mechanical movement of laboratory-instrument exactness . . . jewelled bearings . . . rugged coil . . . special Alnico magnets. Sealed against moisture. DeJUR-Amsco Corporation, 45-05 Northern Boulevard, Long Island City 1, New York.*

***More of the Equipment You Need . . . for the Pictures You Want***

**DeJUR "1000"** 8mm. Projector—1000-watt lamp, other features.

**DeJUR "Versatile"** Enlarger—light-tight, ventilated; multiple uses.



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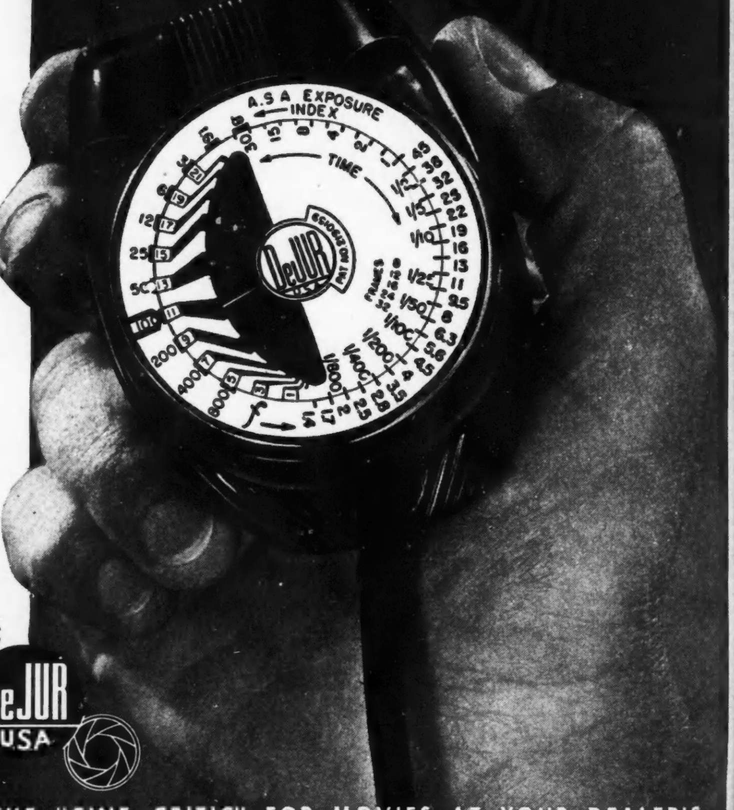

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SEE THE "AUTOCRITIC" AND THE "CINE CRITIC" FOR MOVIES AT YOUR DEALER'S

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# *The* AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

*Official Journal of the National Rifle Association of America*

VOLUME 94 NUMBER 11

NOVEMBER 1946

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## From the Editor:

With only one issue remaining to complete Volume 94 of THE RIFLEMAN, we've started preparing the usual end-of-the-year index of the twelve 1946 issues, to be incorporated this year in the December magazine. During the war years, with their drastic paper restrictions, we printed the index separately, rather than take up that much-needed space which could otherwise be devoted to some worth-while article. Of course, that was before we learned just how valuable and popular the index was to our readers . . . and before we understood how each magazine is read and re-read, then carefully filed for reference. The index was available upon request, and from those thousands of requests we learned of its popularity . . . which reminds us of something we should call to the attention of our 110,000 new members.

☆ ☆ ☆

Last November our total subscription was 87,000 . . . this November issue, it is 203,000. . . . Within the year's time, the new readers may not have become sufficiently grounded in their gun lore to appreciate all of the reference material that has gone into those twelve issues. But, from the experience of the older readers, we know you'll be appreciating this material the deeper you get into this gun business and the longer you read So we suggest you start saving all the old copies. . . . The index will help you in reference but, as one of our readers, Stanley Ainsworth of Terre Haute, Indiana, suggests, "You may be nagged by a desire to devise a more detailed means of making the multiplicity of material immediately available." He has worked out a system we'll pass on to you in a forthcoming issue. Ainsworth lists his principal categories, which you might be thinking about: Accessories; Ammunition, general, handgun, rifle, shotgun; Book Reviews; Gunsmithing; Handguns; Historical Material; Legislation; Machine Guns; Military Articles; Muzzle Loaders; Range Construction; Reloading; Rifle; Safety; Shooting (instructions, etc.); Shotguns; Sights; Targets; Miscellaneous. Or you may gradually develop your own system. But what's important, keep your copies on file.

☆ ☆ ☆

As for Volume 94, there's a story back of that figure we want to tell you one of these days. It represents 62 years of publication, and this issue, the 2,082nd since that first one back in 1885 . . . to make THE RIFLEMAN the oldest of America's sporting magazines . . . and an old-timer in any field.

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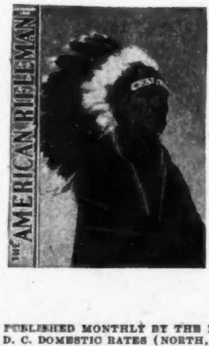

## COVER

**This month's cover will be a reminder of those almost forgotten frontier days of the American rifleman, and the half-century of bloody Indian warfare that went into the settling of the West. The subject is White Parker, nominally chief of the Comanches. Parker is a grandson of Cynthia Ann Parker, kidnapped by his plains-raiding forebears from a white settlement near what is now Weatherford, Texas, in 1836, and raised by the tribe. The Kodachrome is by A. L. Osborne, of Cisco, Texas. Photo data: Agfa Isolar 9x12 cm, 50th second at f/8.**

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, 1600 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, WASHINGTON 6, D. C. DOMESTIC RATES (NORTH, SOUTH, AND CENTRAL AMERICA) $3.00 A YEAR; $5.00 FOR TWO YEARS, ELSEWHERE, $3.60 A YEAR; $6.50 FOR TWO YEARS. ENTERED AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER, APRIL 1, 1908, AT THE POST OFFICE AT WASHINGTON, D. C., UNDER ACT OF MARCH 3, 1879.

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FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS, GIVE BOTH NEW AND OLD ADDRESS AS THE LATTER APPEARS ON ADDRESS LABEL.

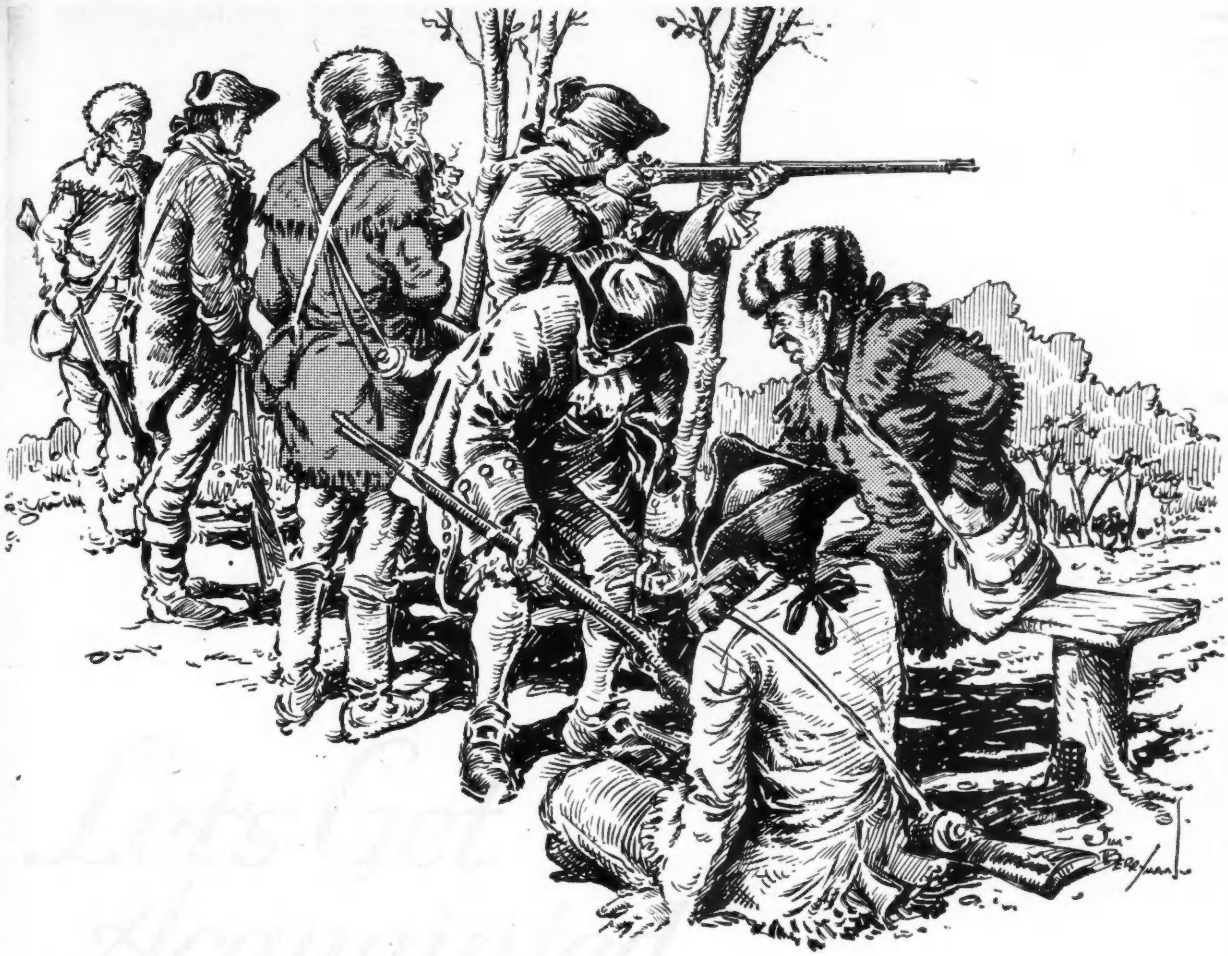
# *Random Shots*

FEDERAL FIREARMS REGISTRATION—Veterans and sportsmen in general are still being upset by the inaccurate and misleading newspaper stories which appear in most localities when the Federal Alcohol Tax Unit men attempt to register machine guns and sub-machine guns brought home by returned service men. Generally, the "Feds" are not to blame—the trouble is that too few American newspaper men know the difference between one kind of gun and another—and they always prefer "color" to a dry statement of fact. The story is that there have been no changes in the Federal laws—it is still true that the only guns that have to be registered are machine guns, sub-machine guns and shotguns or rifles having barrels less than eighteen inches long. If the gun is a .22, the barrel has to be less than sixteen inches to be registerable. The mere fact that a pistol, shotgun or rifle is of foreign make does not make it registerable. Unfortunately, not all Federal men are blameless for the misinformation. In North Carolina, one Alcohol Tax Unit man OK'd a window display purporting to show the kinds of guns that must be registered—it included a sporting rifle, a shotgun and a cap-and-ball pistol!

POSTWAR "CRIME WAVE" has failed to produce much ammunition for the gun registration boys. Much publicized increases have been based on 1943 and 1944 figures when twelve or thirteen million men were under military discipline. Military ages coincide with age groups which produce most crimes of violence, so big reduction in civilian crime figures during '43 and '44 was to be expected. Except in cases of aggravated assault, no classification in "crimes of violence" group has yet risen beyond point reached in prewar years—some classes are much lower. In "aggravated assault," knives, clubs, strangling, plain fisticuffs have seized the limelight from guns. This has taken much wind out of the sails of the anti-gun crowd who had expected vets' souvenir pistols to figure prominently in the postwar crime picture.

WHAT ABOUT SAFETY EDUCATION? A lot of people are going hunting this fall whose only training in gun handling has been in the Armed Forces. Some of it has been pretty bad training—none of it particularly good from the standpoint of safety in the hunting field. None of these fellows want to hurt anyone—or be hurt. They will listen to advice from an old hand at the game. The N.R.A. color-with-sound film, *Trigger Happy Harry,* is a handy medium around which to build an evening of entertainment and instruction for the tyros in any community. But group affairs are not the only way to keep people from getting hurt. During one or two lunch periods you can pass along a lot of good dope to the kid who works on the bench or desk next to you. Particularly, warn against wearing Army or Marine Corps field uniforms in the hunting field. They were designed to confuse enemy riflemen. It's bad tactics to confuse other hunters in thickly populated hunting territory!

OUT OF THE DOGHOUSE! At the request of President Truman, a national conference has been called by Attorney General Tom Clarke to discuss the causes and cures for the disease popularly called "juvenile delinquency." About a thousand educators, probation officers, boys' work men, Parent-Teacher Association leaders, etc., have been invited to give their views and to work out corrective programs. The N.R.A. has been asked to participate! So, at long last, comes national recognition of the fact that teaching a youngster to handle a gun properly may be helpful in building better citizens! By persistent effort and intelligent cooperation with other groups, we have come far since that occasion a few years ago when a learned (?) judge delivered himself of the opinion that the activities of the N.R.A., "far from being of benefit to the boys and girls of our community, may be actually teaching them those things which will lead to criminal associations and activities." Junior rifle clubs sponsored by forward-looking police departments are no longer a novelty. What are you doing about the kids in your neighborhood?—C. B. L.



# Let's Get Acquainted . . .

### By CHARLES S. RIDGLEY

You'd never know it from reading the sports pages, but there are a lot of people having a lot of fun these days with shootin' irons. Millions of them. All you have to do is look up the figures on hunting licenses. They're lone wolves, maybe, promoting their own little hunting expeditions, but they'll have company before those expeditions really get started. They're not organized, unless in that matter of season. Thrown all together, though, on opening day, they'd make quite an army—all those hundreds of little hunting parties. But they're still on their own. The only difference from those early days we're probably trying to imitate, through some inborn backwoodsman glamour we Americans think we have, is the fact that the rifleman (and I'm not getting sentimental over the good old days of any Dan'l Boones) went out 'most any time he felt like it or needed meat in the pot. Those fellows were lone wolves, too. So am I. It's all right, too, for those few days we get during the hunting season. Otherwise, though, I know there's a whole lot we're missing.

There was a time when you could get up a pretty good shootin' match . . . a few lead balls, a powder horn, the old smoke-stick, and the desire to shoot. That last took in just about everyone who considered himself a man. (Now we'd say "sportsman," and a badly overrated word it is.)

A turkey shoot . . . a slab of wood with a charcoal cross, or the bobbing noggin' of a staked-out bird . . . a lot of smoke, some pretty pointed kidding, the whole countryside out to enjoy it . . . and great-great grandpappy, if he could slip out of his Saturday chores, would try to fill the Sunday kettle at the expense of the local hot shots.

There are still an awful lot of guys who think they're hot shots. I do, and I admit it. But I'm not going to be worried

[illegible]

about a custom bullgun. Or getting the wrong lot number of match ammunition. And I'm not concerned with "official" referees, or forty-shot matches on my belly, or standing on my head. That's all right for the boys who like it. But I'll take my shooting sort of informal like. I'd go for something like the poster I saw the other day: "Turkey Shoot . . . any rifle, any iron sights, 50 and 100 yards, prone and offhand; re-entry matches for money. Prizes include ducks, chickens, large roast beef, and Maymie's famous homemade pumpkin (not squash) pies. A swell shoot, rain or shine." Or this one. "Ripon's 12th Annual Duck Shoot . . . events all day . . . running deer targets . . . rising bear . . . archery . . . trap shooting . . . Mo-Skeet-O . . . .22 rifle . . . pistol and revolver. Bring the gang! Stay all day." That sounds like fun. They don't care whether you're Master or Marksman . . . or maybe they don't even know about such characters.

Why can't the informal shootin' match come back into its own? I repeat, I have no complaint about the "formal" matches. But I have heard they take in no more than 20 per cent of the NRA's members. That 20 per cent gets all the attention when it comes to competition. So what about the 80 per cent?

Years ago, when the specialized Schuetzen rifleman took over, the man with the hunting rifle had no chance. Then, when the belly flopper came in with his overweight rifle, the hunter was shut out more than ever. What opportunity has the lever-action fan to strut his stuff? What opportunity the .270 owner, or the varmint shooter with his souped-up .22 and .25 caliber pets? When he is given a chance on any shooting program, it's always in the form of a condescending freak show, like the bearded lady at a circus.

Surely, a great deal more emphasis could be given hunter's matches, but they would have to be strictly regulated to keep out the specialized equipment. Give the man with seven and a half pounds of ordinary rifle a chance to compete with shooters in his own class, and give the owners of those super varmint rifles a chance under their own conditions, too.

It would seem that 80 per cent of a membership as large as the NRA's would appreciate some form of competition. Their individual interests must vary from the serious hunter to the occasional plinker to the home gunsmith. Something is wrong, somewhere, when we fail to provide matches and ranges for all of those thousands who own sporting firearms, and who like to shoot them, but to whom paper targets have no appeal. Why else join the NRA, except for love of guns and shooting? And don't forget the gun owners who would like to shoot but who are not yet NRA members because the current program doesn't appeal to them.

The NRA, after all, is an association of and for shooters . . . not necessarily target shooters. True, the belly-flopping small-bore man has been, and is, the heart of the rifle competitive game. But he is also the pet, and the attention and benefits he receives from his membership are away out of proportion.

To be fair, I'll admit he wins because of organization . . . because he has seen fit to pool his interest with others to form clubs, to build ranges, and above all to make his demands known to the NRA. They're a "vocal" lot, the small-bore shooters . . . to put it mildly. What I'm saying is . . . why not give the hunter or whoever makes up that nontarget shooting 80 per cent, equal attention—some program for the hunter, the plinker, the varminter. . . .

And as far as that goes, I've heard it said, but I don't believe it's true, that the all-around shooter and the target shooter are irreconcilable . . . that they don't speak the same language. Not necessarily. I've known some of the belly-flopping variety who are darned fine all-around shooters, and who take their hunting trips or their turkey shoots with as much fun as I do. And I know there are many clubs on NRA rolls that specialize in target shooting, but still conduct variety and novelty shoots consistently. And I'll bet they're the clubs that can afford new clubhouses. Under such wide-interest programs, they'll have the membership to do those things.

It's this clannishness I resent. There's no argument, if they want to be that way. But they're missing so darn much. The club is a gathering place for bull sessions that cover every phase of shooting. That's the kind of a club I'd like to find. When it came to shooting, it would be a free-for-all . . . a range schedule that would appeal to every guy in that town who owns a gun. Plinking targets, breakable discs . . . bench-rest shooting for the super duper boys . . . or hunting rifle, any-sights or separate scope matches . . . running deer . . . and, for the serious belly-floppers, a batch of "official" matches.

When a hunter with his pet gun shows up at a range, he's considered an interloper. I've tried it and have been frozen out. But I know of one range where they're welcomed. They should be, for they're paying the freight. By setting up a range for all, this community I'm talking about has enrolled hundreds of fellows who own guns and want to exercise them once in awhile. They don't interfere with the minority who are taking their small-bore stuff seriously. But they do pay dues for the privilege of sighting in a rifle. . . .

We've heard a lot of talk about the end of the war bringing with it a popular field for shooting of all kinds. That can be exercised best in some community project. Sure, we hunters aren't organized and that's where we should assume the blame. To get that organization, however, is fairly simple. Here's my plea to the 80 per centers. Scattered throughout every community are NRA members, individuals, who probably don't know of the other fellow. Let's get acquainted. Our individual memberships, where there are ten or more, would mean a Class A club. If we don't have a clubhouse, or even a range, we still have a mutual meeting ground in our shooting interests as varied as they may be. The NRA tells me they will furnish lists of members in any community.

For once, it would be fine to prove that a shooting club doesn't necessarily depend on a "chosen few" of small-bore nuts. They would be more than welcome . . . but they wouldn't freeze out the more casual guys. We could get back to that informal shooting . . . of guns and the breeze . . . and have ourselves a time.

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# This AMMO SHORTAGE

## THE SCARCITY OF AMMUNITION AND PRIMERS IS CRIPPLING THE SHOOTING GAME IN SOME AREAS . . . ARE 1947's PROSPECTS ANY BRIGHTER?

THE AMMUNITION SHORTAGE is being taken about as gracefully by shooters as the meat shortage is by Republicans and Democrats. And when it comes to primers, you just haven't heard anything. Squawks by handloaders swamp ammunition salesmen, flood company offices . . . and the NRA. The letters range from the meek, asking for advice on where they might obtain primers, to threats of dire deeds if the National Rifle Association doesn't do something about it. Just what this Association should do isn't clear . . . to the Association or to the members. On that point, the suggestions stop cold . . .

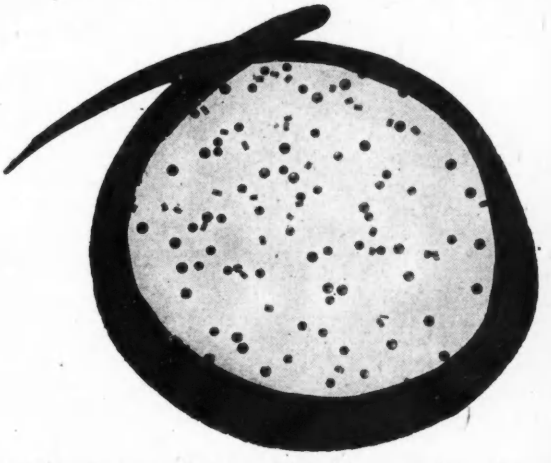
Well, naturally, the NRA would like to "get something rolling." Shortages of ammunition and components probably hurt the Association, as a nationwide organization, more than they hurt any one individual. With a golden era of shooting in the offing, it certainly is not in the best interests of either the NRA or the arms and ammunition companies to see prospective shooters turning to golf or other sports. During the war the Association was able to obtain ammunition and primers in limited but sufficient quantities to hold together most of its clubs. Why are things tight now?

In an effort to review the entire ammunition situation THE RIFLEMAN sent one of its correspondents to the two largest loading companies, to inquire and obtain their explanation. Additional checks were made of the Civilian Production Administration, still the watchdog and allocator of critical materials. The War Department was brought into the picture since its own primer and ammunition curtailment directly affects NRA members, through the DCM.

The ammunition situation contributes the most easily obtainable facts. Here they are . . so far as THE RIFLEMAN has been able to ascertain them.

First, curtailment by the War Department. The stock pile of .22 caliber Long Rifle ammunition, never very large, is completely exhausted. The DCM has a few million rounds set aside for issue to junior clubs and schools and colleges. There is none other available. While the Ordnance Department is anxious to replenish its stock, the immediate stalemate for all ammunition and component parts is due to President Truman's order to freeze funds appropriated for purchase or use of critical materials. THE RIFLEMAN learns this is only a temporary situation. As for primers, there are no large stock piles, and what were on hand have been entirely exhausted. THE RIFLEMAN has investigated this situation and has heard the explanations. At this point, criticism of policies can do no good now . . . "there's no use crying over spilled milk." But the Ordnance Department is anxious to correct the situation and assures THE RIFLEMAN it will do so at the earliest opportunity.

Secondly, for release of materials to the industry, CPA says it expects the situation to improve around the first of the year. But here is that agency's picture at the moment. Lead is still in such critical supply, the allotment to the arms companies is being cut down once more. For the second and third quarters they received 9,000 tons. CPA hoped to give them more in the fourth quarter, but finally ended up by allotting only 8,000 tons. The normal consumption would be around 16,000 tons. The brass and copper situation is just as bad. Strikes in the smelting plants last spring stopped the supply entirely.



**Primers like these—chemicals and bits of brass—are the hearts of modern cartridges. Without them, nobody shoots . . .**

There is a world shortage of metals. Lead is still the most critical. The shortage is aggravated by the insistent demands for stepped-up housing programs. Lead is required primarily in the construction industry, in public utility maintenance, and in the automobile industry. Activity in all these fields is high because of very large deferred demands. Complaints and demands for homes and cars (appropriate and necessary as they may be) affect directly the ammunition shortage. Every battery for car or truck, for instance, cuts into ammunition lead allotments. In the first seven months of this year our domestic production was 195,231 tons . . . our imports 61,621 tons—an annual rate of 440,316 tons. Our domestic requirements total some 1,100,000 tons annually.

As for the arms companies, they point out they have not made any trap or skeet shells since last spring . . . they have not attempted production of many calibers of rifle ammunition, but they have squeezed out a limited quantity of .22 match ammunition. The situation has been aggravated by the fact that when shells or cartridges appear on a dealer's shelves, shooters do not buy for immediate use, but "stock up" with as much as the dealer will sell. "First come, first served, and the devil take the hindmost."

*(Continued on page 35)*

# "ONE

### *By* F. W. RINKENBERGER

"A big silver-tip that was almost pure white."

ANY JOB CAN BE DONE BETTER if the proper tool is used. For a worth-while job, the best is none too good. When it comes to killing big game, the .300 Magnum is, in my opinion, the best commercial rifle we have in America today. Having, like a lawyer, stated my case, I shall now attempt to prove it.

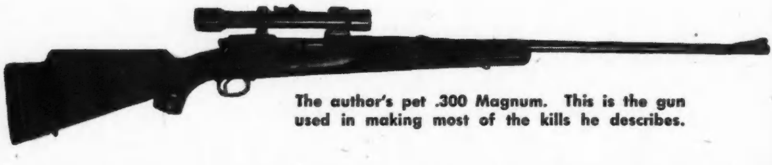
There is more nonsense, prejudice, and complete ignorance expressed about guns than about any other subject I know. In one instance, a gun editor takes up a bunch of obsolete rifles and touts them as "big-game guns." He is particularly fond of the .32 Special, the .30-30, and the .303 British. This statement will raise a howl from any experienced big-game hunter. None of them are accurate beyond 200 yards, and even at that distance the trajectory is out of reason. This same writer said that the Canadians use the .303 British to kill grizzlies, moose, and caribou. I don't know where he got his information. It is utter nonsense to class the .303 as a big-game rifle.

One other gun editor thinks the .270 is tops, yet I happen to know that he does not even try to shoot bear with it. In 1944, in Wyoming, I was trying to get a big silver-tip that was almost pure white, but before I could get to him the guide of another outfit gut-shot him at sixty yards (his own statement) with a .270, and the bear got away. He was severely criticized by the other guides for using the .270 at all on bear. Those guides have no use for the .270. If that bear had been hit by a 220 grain slug out of my .300 Magnum, his pelt would be on my floor now. Another writer tells us that the .300 Magnum leaves a great deal to be desired in shooting sheep. I am sure he has never shot a sheep with the .300 Magnum, and he utterly forgets that in the last few years at Camp Perry most of the 1,000-yard matches were won with .300 Magnums. Elmer Keith has said that the .300 Magnum is the best sheep rifle we have today.

**F. W. RINKENBERGER** *is on "the shady side" of sixty, and has been shooting for five decades. By profession a surgeon, Rinkenberger has devoted his free time for many years to the rifle, and his hunting trips have taken him to almost every game field in America. His trophies now include all North American big-game species except brown bear and Stone sheep.*

In another magazine, the editor (who apparently has a peeve against the .300) decides that the Springfield will outperform the Magnum beyond 300 yards Anyone with any knowledge of mathematics knows that this is impossible. Why should a 180 grain bullet started from a gun with a twenty-four-inch barrel at 2,700 feet per second, outstrip and outperform the same bullet shot from a twenty-six-inch barrel at 3,060 feet? The idea is fantastic.

Another writer takes the Winchester ballistic table and tries to show the superiority of the .270 over the .300, and yet at 300 yards there is barely a half inch difference in the trajectory. No man can hold close enough for that to make any difference. On the other side of the ledger, the 130 grain .270 bullet has 2,395 foot-pounds energy at 100 yards, while the .300 has 3,180, and there is a difference of sixty feet in their velocity.



**The author's pet .300 Magnum. This is the gun used in making most of the kills he describes.**

It is easy to see that the .300 Magnum has greater killing power than these other cartridges, when you are shooting antelope, deer, and sheep. When you get into the realm of elk, brown and grizzly bear, moose, and caribou, the .300 with its 220 grain slug has it so far over the others that there is no comparison. Its ability to plow through heavy muscles and smash bone is away out in front. Up to 200 yards the .375 is more powerful, but with the .375 you *really* get recoil. Nor is the .375 very accurate beyond 200 yards, while the .300 will reach out to 300, 400, and even 500 yards or more with accuracy and plenty of punch.

A number of good wildcats have been obtainable in the last few years, but they all involve handloading, and this can be a serious drawback. I refer to such rifles as the .35 Whelen, the .35 Newton, and Keith's O.K.H. Among "standard"

# MAN’S MEAT . . .”

THERE MAY BE BETTER CHOICES, BUT THIS HUNTER, WITH AN ENVIABLE BIG-GAME RECORD BEHIND HIM, THINKS HE HAS FOUND THE IDEAL RIFLE FOR NORTH AMERICAN GAME

calibers usually considered in the big-game class, the .30-’06 is certainly the best of the lot, because of the diversity of loads adapted to it. The .270 Winchester with its 130 grain bullet is a good cartridge for deer, antelope, and sheep, but when it comes to moose, caribou, elk, grizzlies, and the Alaskan brown bear, with the explosive type of bullet it uses, it simply does not have the bone-smashing punch needed. With the 150 grain bullet, it is only a second-rate .30-’06. It must be remembered that the .270 is nothing but a necked down .30-’06 case.

The only other American cartridge to be considered is the .348 Winchester, and it is the least effective of the lot. I mention it only because of the fact that it is a lever-action rifle. However, it is no longe-range gun. It is not as powerful as the .30-’06, and beyond 200 yards its usefulness is limited. None of our other cartridges are in a class with these four, of which the .300 Magnum is, in my opinion, the leader when it comes to killing power on heavy animals. The .300 has more power and velocity at 100 yards than the .30-’06 at the muzzle.

Proponents of the .270 like to tell of its velocity and flat trajectory. One gun editor recently tried to prove that the .270 is superior to the .300 Magnum. In doing so he used figures for the 130 grain Spitzer bullet in the .270, in comparison with the 180 grain open point in the .300, and attempted to show that beyond 300 yards the .270 is superior to the .300 Magnum. This is unfair. Had he used the figures for the 180 grain Spitzer for both, he would have had no case. Certainly no 130 grain bullet would have the same momentum as would a 180 grain bullet at practically the same velocity.

A great many outdoors writers base their objection to the .300 Magnum on its supposedly objectionable recoil. I have shot Springfields for thirty years, both service rifles and custom-made guns. Frank Packmayr has taken National Match .30-’06’s, restocked them, and made beautiful guns for me. I still have one of them, and not long ago I shot it alongside of my pet .300 Magnum. To me the .300 is preferable to the .30-’06. The .300 gives more of a push than the sharp slap of the .30-’06. No properly stocked gun, either .30-’06 or .300 Magnum, will be as punishing as the issue service rifle. The recoil of either is certainly not as great as that of a 12 gauge shotgun.

There have been two notable conversions of the .300 made by enlarging the chamber and blowing out the commercial shell to allow greater loading of powder. These “improved” .300’s permit the use of seventy-three to eighty grains of No. 4350, with a claimed decrease in pressures and an increase in velocity with the 180 grain bullet to around 3,300 to 3,500 foot-seconds, and with a muzzle energy of better than 4,000 pounds. The makers also claim that recoil is lessened. One maker claims that this change makes the .300 Magnum the longest-ranged and the most powerful big game rifle in the world.

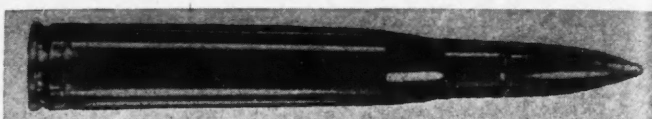
Now for the saga of my pet. 300 Magnum. I first hunted in British Columbia and killed goat, elk, and moose, though at that time the ammunition was not satisfactory. With the 180 grain open-point Winchester bullet, I shot completely through an elk at 300 yards. The bullet failed to open up at all, and left only small wounds of entrance and exit. It did not even knock the animal down. Another shot above the ear ended it. The next night I shot a moose in the spine, just above the shoulders, which completely paralyzed the animal. A shot through the chest finished him. I shot a goat about 400 yards below me on a ledge. The beast took four 220 grain soft-point bullets. This load was not satisfactory either. On my return home I got in touch with John L. Chisnall of Remington and Jack Frost of Western. Both were very

*Photos from U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

helpful. At the same time there were stirrings in other sources, and finally Remington brought out their Core-lokt bullet and Western developed the Silvertip, thus recognizing the fact that a bullet must hold together to perform its function on heavy animals.

By way of digression, I may state that I was chief surgeon to a base hospital in the first war and feel that I have considerable knowledge of the effects of bullets on animal tissue. For me, the 220 grain mushroom Core-lokt has been the most killing bullet I have ever used. I have shot everything from a coyote to a nine-foot grizzly and fifty-five and one-half and sixty-two and one-fourth-inch moose, and never yet has this bullet failed to expand.

There is as yet no good commercial sheep load. However, with the help of Jack O'Connor and F. A. Krause, the custom loader of Albuquerque, New Mexico, we developed a sheep load using 63½ grains of No. 4350 powder with the 180 grain Barnes bullet. We estimated the velocity of this load at about 3,100 feet per second. It is superbly accurate and killed very satisfactorily. As a commercial load, Remington could very easily modify their 180 grain Bronze Point so that it will stand a velocity of around 3,500 foot-seconds, by making the jacket considerably thicker at the base. I believe it would be very satisfactory for long-range sheep and antelope shooting.



The fame of the .300 Magnum cartridge dates from a day in 1935 when Ben Comfort took an untried, unsighted rifle to Camp Perry, and walked away from 1,480 other shooters to win the top long-range trophy of the land.

Early in the thirties there was considerable talk, in and out of the magazines, about a good long-range big-game rifle. Well-known hunters, among them Elmer Keith, had given up the .30-'06 and gone to such cartridges as the .300 Hoffman. Among others, Ben C. Comfort, a St. Louis sportsman, was turning these things over in his mind while on a hunting trip. He decided that the English .300 H&H Magnum, with a 180 grain bullet, should be ideal for long-range work—and might even win that long-range rifleman's dream match, the classic 1,000-yard Wimbledon event. With the help of Western Cartridge Company engineers, Ben set out to do something about it. Griffin & Howe made up a custom rifle for him, and Western loaded special ammunition with the 180 grain match bullet.

Comfort and his new .300 Magnum showed up at the National Matches in 1935, with one avowed goal—the Wimbledon Cup. The rest is history. Shooting in a troublesome wind, with mirage running, Comfort and his rifle defeated nearly 1,500 hopeful competitors (nearly all of them shooting .30-'06's) to win the match with a clean score and 14 V's. The .300 Magnum was in!

The Marines were quick to take up the new rifle. In 1936 a Leatherneck won the big match with a custom-built .300 Magnum. Nine of the first ten places that year went to the new cartridge. By this time the .300 was famous in the target shooting fraternity, and big-game hunters were eager to adopt it. The cartridge, however, was not a production job in this country until early in 1938, when Winchester made the .300 and .375 Magnums available in their new Model 70.

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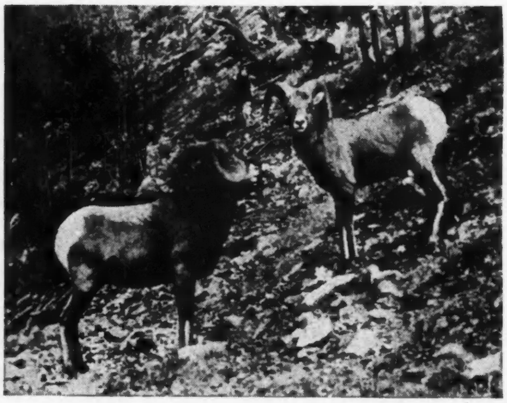
There is not space to go into great detail, but I can list a few of the animals I have shot with the .300, and the results, in addition to the ones before mentioned. In Wyoming, in 1939, I shot an elk at about 400 yards. The first bullet struck the lumbar spine, putting the animal down. The next shot went through the chest, breaking two ribs on the near side, pulping the contents of the chest, breaking three ribs on the far side and lodging under the skin. On the same trip I shot a sheep at better than 500 yards. The bullet entered under the right eye, passed through the head, and the base was found under the skin on the left side of the neck. The animal was killed instantly. On these two animals, and all succeeding, with the exception of Dall sheep, I used the 220 grain Remington mushroom Express Core-lokt.

In 1942, in Utah, I shot a 130-pound doe at better than 200 yards, running diagonally up a hill from me. The bullet entered at the rear of the left rib cage, pulped the chest contents and tore out the collar bone, leaving an exit wound the size of one's fist, showing that the bullet had mushroomed perfectly on this light animal. It killed her instantly. In Wyoming in 1944, I shot a large black bear at about seventy-five yards. The bullet plowed through both shoulders, breaking both joints. As the bear rolled by me, I shot him through the spine just back of the skull, killing him instantly.



In 1945 I spent five weeks in the Yukon with Johnnie Johns, the famous guide. One cow caribou was shot at 200 yards. The bullet entered the back of the right rib cage, passed completely through the chest, and killed her instantly. A big bull caribou was shot at fifty yards, the bullet going through the neck, passing through the chest and out through the right shoulder—another clean kill. A smaller bull caribou was struck in the spine at seventy-five yards, and a second shot through the chest, also a clean kill. A seven-foot brown bear was shot in the neck at 175 yards. The spine was broken just back of the skull, giving me a clean kill with a single shot. A nine-foot grizzly at seventy-five yards, also shot through the spine just back of the skull, was killed instantly. Another big grizzly was shot at seventy-five yards. The bullet entered the rear of the left rib cage, passed through the chest and out of the neck, killing perfectly. One moose, a 55½-inch animal, standing in deep

*(Continued on page 34)*

# FAULTY EYES

## By SAM H. NICKELS

Pistol shooting has always been a hobby of mine, and I noticed a marked falling off in accuracy when I donned my first pair of glasses. Later, when I had to change to bifocals, I found that I had changed from bad to worse. And with my next pair of glasses, I found that I was definitely through with all pistol shooting—or I thought I was. I could still handle a rifle about as well as I ever could, and with a shotgun it made no difference at all. But when I tried to use a handgun, I found myself up against it. When I'd look through the top of my glasses, I could see my target distinctly but no sights. With the lower part of my glasses, the situation was exactly the reverse—I could see my sights clearly but there was no target.

This went on for a few years until I heard of a man who said that he had overcome the problem by using a common teaspoon with a tiny hole through the bowl. He would shove the handle of the spoon up under his hat to hold it in place, and let the bowl hang down over his shooting eye. He then sighted his pistol through the hole he had drilled in the bowl.

I tried this trick and found that it helped my shooting considerably. I could see my sights again, but they were still not as sharp and clear as I wanted them.

My first change from the spoon was to remove both lenses from an old pair of glasses and fit a very thin piece of aluminum in place of the right one. When I had put a small hole through the center of this with a darning needle, I tried it out and found that I had made some improvement. But I still wasn't satisfied.

My next try was with a tough piece of heavy brown paper in place of the aluminum, with a hole of about the same size. This was better, probably because of the absence of light reflection, as was the trouble with the bright aluminum. While my sights appeared much sharper, my target still did not stand out as clearly as I thought it should. But I was well pleased in spite of that. At least I could once more do a fair job of pistol shooting, and this meant a great deal to a fellow who had thought that he was entirely through. I suppose my wife thought that I was doing an awful lot of unnecessary shooting with my old .45 in the "front yard" of the ranch, but I was soon happily engaged in trying to improve further upon what I had. I was determined to clear up that target entirely.

### AGING EYESIGHT, THAT BUGABOO OF THE VETERAN SHOOTER, CAN BE LICKED . . . IF YOU GO ABOUT IT IN THE RIGHT WAY

Early next morning, I got my wife's scissors and cut a strip of brown paper about three-quarters of an inch wide and a little longer than the lenses in my glasses. When I had put a small hole through the middle of this, I put it on the outside of my right lens and fastened it in place by folding the ends of the paper down over the edge of the frame of my glasses at the top and bottom. This arrangement didn't work quite so well, and I soon decided that it was probably because the convex lens held the paper a little too far from my eye. But when I changed the paper from the outside to the inside of the lens, I quickly found that I had made a very decided improvement. My target was now clear enough for almost any ordinary shooting, and I was elated a few days later when I was able to kill a coyote from my car window at a distance of about sixty yards.

I carried that piece of brown paper in my car for quite a while and did considerable practice shooting with it. I did no more experimenting until one day while in town I saw a traveling eye doctor fitting a young lady with glasses. I watched him idly at first as he slipped an odd-looking pair of frames on her and began turning something slowly around over one of her eyes as she stared at some letters on the wall. Curiosity got the better of me and I moved closer to see what he was doing. The doctor who had examined my eyes may have used something similar on me, but I hadn't noticed it at the time. I asked this doctor what he was doing, and he replied that he was testing the young lady's eyes for astigmatism. Instead of a hole through the gadget he was using, I noticed that there was a very narrow slot, no wider than the hole I had made in that brown paper.

Presently, as the doctor moved this gadget clockwise again, the girl suddenly nodded and said, "I can see those letters plainly now, doctor. They were blurred and out of shape before."

I had to leave about that time, but I had already heard and seen enough to start me thinking. Next day, I cut another piece of brown paper to test out an idea that had crept into my head. This time, instead of merely putting a hole through it, I took the corner of a safety-razor blade and carefully cut a slot about an eighth of an inch long and no wider than the hole I had been using in the other paper. In a few moments, I had fitted this paper to my glasses and was ready to try out that doctor's trick.

Getting out my pistol and sighting it at a new target I had put up on top of the gate, I found that I had made no improvement whatever. But I was still not ready to give up. I had set the paper in position with that little slot level, so I began moving it slowly clockwise, a little at a time as the doctor in town had done, and I tested my pistol sights at the target after each move. I had moved that paper around on my lens until the slot was nearly halfway between level and upright when suddenly my target stood out as clearly and sharply defined as targets had appeared to me before I was ever forced to don glasses. I had solved my problem at last, and could shoot again about as well as I ever could.

"Pistol shooting has always been a hobby of mine . . ."

Maybe it won't work for you, but a try costs nothing. Why not give it a chance? It worked wonders for me.

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# TR's SPRINGFIELD

### By GORDON LYLE

When Theodore Roosevelt was called to assume the duties of Chief Executive, one might have thought he would lose some of his interest in army affairs. He never did. The old "Rough Rider" remained the same keen observer and advocate of inceased efficiency in the war machine that he had been as a soldier.

President Roosevelt never seemed to lose his fondness for shooting. He had a private range on his estate at Oyster Bay, New York, and was no stranger to the ranges around Washington—the one at Fort Myer, Virginia, being the most accessible while he was President.

His interest in shooting dated back to his days on the Western ranges, years before the events that had led to the forming of the regiment of Westerners who fought valiantly under him through the Cuban campaign of 1898.

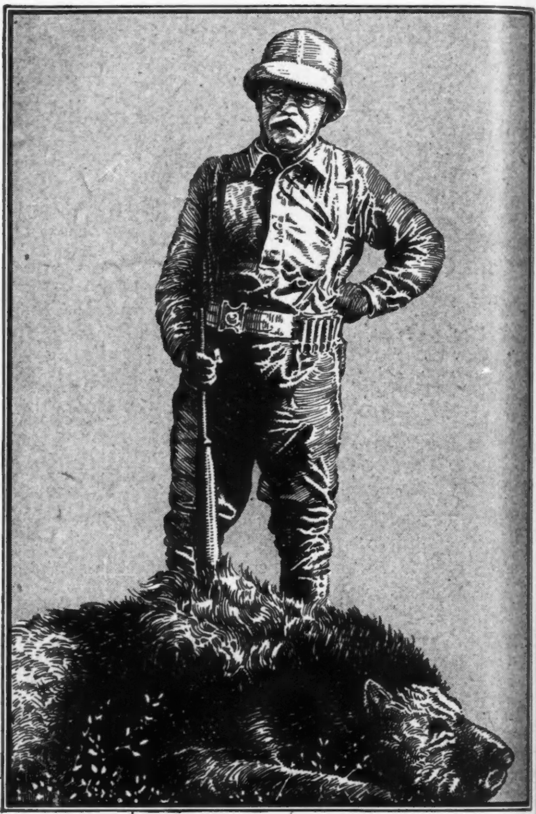
After the war with Spain, our Army officials began a study to improve the shoulder weapons then in use. Early in 1903, after a series of tests, it was decided to adopt a bolt-action, magazine rifle, modeled after the German Mauser. The recommendations of the Army boards and the Chief of Ordnance were approved by the Secretary of War on June 19, 1903.

When news reached the White House of this new rifle President Roosevelt was eager to assure himself that this new "Springfield Carbine" was all it was reported to be.

So, under date of November 17, 1903, he addressed a note direct to Brig. Gen. William Crozier, Chief of Ordnance, asking that one of the new "Carbines" be made at the Springfield Armory, equipped with sights exactly like those on his Winchester Rifle, which he sent along as a sample.

Early in February, 1904, the new rifle was delivered to the White House. The delivery was an event of moment and, according to one story, Colonel Roosevelt was so captivated with the weapon that he went onto the lawn south of the White House, set up a target, and tried it out.

In fitting the Lyman sight to the President's Springfield, considerable study and effort was necessary, but the men at Springfield Armory were equal to the job. At that time "star-gauging" had not been developed but, after careful checking and test-firing, a rifle was delivered to be proud of. When the President was presented with a bill representing the cost of work done, he promptly sent his personal check for $42.13 to the Ordnance Department, which was acknowledged by Capt. T. C. Dickson, then on duty in General Crozier's office.



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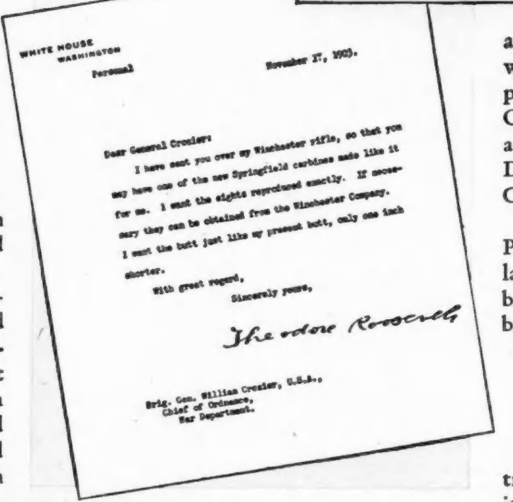


WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Personal

November 17, 1903.

Dear General Crozier:

I have sent you over my Winchester rifle, so that you may have one of the new Springfield carbines made like it for me. I want the sights reproduced exactly. If necessary they can be obtained from the Winchester Company. I want the butt just like my present butt, only one inch shorter.

With great regard,

Sincerely yours,

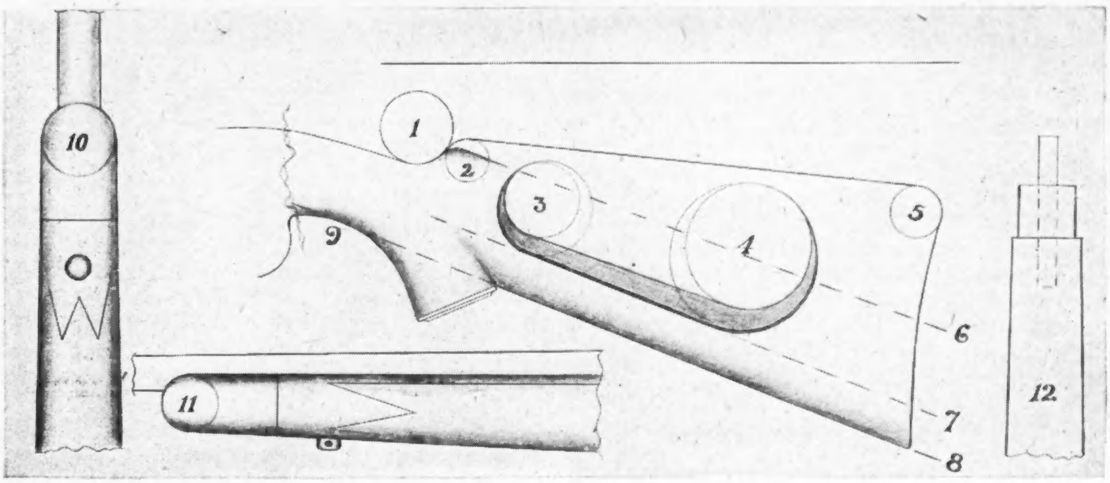
Theodore Roosevelt

Brig. Gen. William Crozier, U.S.A.,
Chief of Ordnance,
War Department.

The rifle evidently was all the President expected. Five years later he had his Springfield sent back to the Springfield Armory to be equipped with a special illuminated sight device to be used in case of night attack while hunting big game in Africa after he retired from office.

In preparing for his hunting trip to Africa, the President felt it advisable to equip both his Springfield and .405 Winchester rifles with the sight illuminating device already mentioned. This was known as the Thomas Neary Device for illuminating rifle sights. President Roosevelt had seen one of these sight attachments, and arranged to send a sample rifle so equipped along *(Continued on page 34)*

**GORDON LYLE** *was, until recently, a special writer and researcher for the Army's Ordnance Department. Now retired and living in Washington, D. C., Dr. Lyle is devoting himself to research tasks interrupted by his wartime service. The material for this story was discovered in the National Archives.*



# THAT "SUPER" SPORTER

### By MORGAN HOLMES

A FIRST-GRADE SPORTING RIFLE is something that every hunter has a yearning to possess. But no one knows better than the true gun crank just how difficult it can be to design, build, and finish a gun of the highest grade, and have it turn out precisely as it was expected to look. Often enough, it is hard to locate the fault in the finished product that may deaden our complete enthusiasm. In some cases it may be the touch of an artist that is missing; in others it may be a lack of attention to the tiny details which make a "super" sporter the fine piece of equipment it is.

To build the highest grade gun, the most insignificant points must be magnified and carefully studied, and then carried out with the greatest of patience. Time in an undertaking of this sort cannot be of consequence. The weeks—or even months—required to build a rifle of this class make the job a major undertaking, a labor of love, if the job is carried out to the utmost of our ability. Naturally, personal taste will have a lot to do with the choice of materials and decoration, and will affect to some extent every part of the rifle. Many points that I mention here may show prejudice owing to my own taste, but even so I think I can give some helpful suggestions for the man who sincerely desires to own a de luxe sporter, built and fitted to his own taste.

Like any true thoroughbred, the fine hunting rifle must be distinctive in a quiet way. It must be graceful, with racy lines; no bulges or hollows, and the color combination must harmonize. A gun may have an ivory butt plate and pistol grip cap, or gold and silver relief work, but these things can never put a second-class gun in the best grade. Those highly decorated guns attract a great deal of attention, but such attention is drawn by the flash of such work, not by the gun as a whole. A gun of distinction should never be gaudy. It should never be admired because of some bright, unusual spot, but rather as a whole unit. That restraint is the hardest point to arrive at. My own ideal sporter would have no gold and no ivory.

Many articles in previous issues of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN have explained in great detail the methods generally employed in such phases of remodeling as stocking, rebarreling, shaping, and finishing. This time we will strike at the problem from other angles, paying particular attention to those features which might be the cause of a job not coming up to expectations.

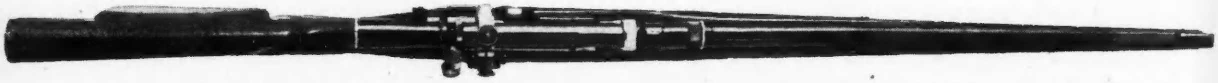
Of all the components for our sporter, the choice of wood will have more influence on the finished product than any other part. Walnut is the best choice for a rifle of this sort. Mahogany burl, if it can be obtained in dark color and dense grain, is beautiful but almost impossible to get. Whether your blank is American, Circassian, or French walnut is of little importance. But the color, figure, density, and strength are very important. Strength and density can be considered together. Dense wood has very small pores and is heavier and harder than open wood. Such wood is very strong if properly cut, with the grain running through the grip, not across it. Many simple tests will give indications of the wood's characteristics. Split off a sliver and note its ability to stay together. Crack it across the grain to get an idea of its strength. Look at the pores under a magnifying glass, and

A CUSTOM GUNMAKER HAS HIS OWN IDEAS ABOUT GOOD TASTE IN THE MAKING OF A "SUPER GRADE" SPORTING RIFLE—THAT ATTENTION TO DETAILS WHICH MEANS REAL GUNSMITHING SKILL . . .

check the size of the holes against a soft blank. The denser the wood, the better the finish.

Color and figure will have a great effect on the finished job. The best will be none too good. I have seen some black walnut blanks that were very beautiful, particularly when cut from the stump of the tree. If American walnut with fiddleback or burl grain can be obtained, it will make a fine stock. European wood has more contrast in color and less of the brown shades found in almost all of our wood. American wood usually runs from a light brown through darker brown with some black streaks. Circassian, and often French, walnut will have golden yellow as a background, changing in spots or streaks into organge red and jet black. This makes the finest stock of all if it can be secured. You may have to spend considerable time and money to get a first-class blank, but don't rest until you have a good one. It will pay big dividends in the end. Don't make a fine stock of poor wood.

Now for the dimensions of our stock: The illustrated stock is nicely proportioned and of a good design. The butt is 13¾ inches long; the drop at the comb from iron sights is 1½ inches, and at the heel, 2½ inches. The stock is pitched down 3½ inches. The butt plate is 5⅛ inches long, $1\frac{9}{16}$ inches wide, and ½ inch below the top line of the stock. A half inch above the bottom stock line, the plate is ⅞ inch wide. The grip cap is 1¼ inches wide by 1¾ inches long. The narrowest part of the grip, just back of the tangs, measured in circumference, is 4½ inches. The cheekpiece is 6 inches long, including the bead. Rear depth is 2⅛ inches at the extreme end of the straight portion, just before the upward curve. Distance of rearmost point of cheekpiece to butt is 2¾ inches. The cheekpiece ends in front ⅞ inch behind a line straight down from the tip of the comb. The widest part of the bead is $\frac{7}{16}$ inch and comes at the lower rear curve of the cheekpiece.



**Top view of a well-shaped stock. Notice the trim lines around the magazine, straight lines from the magazine to muzzle, and close position of bolt handle**

I have found in designing a stock that if the lines are either straight or some part of a *true* circle they will look best. For instance, as shown on page 15, the cheekpiece can easily be worked in by this method. The outside lower line (7) should be parallel to the bottom stock line (8). Then two parts of a circle should be scribed in the blank large enough at each end to bring the cheekpiece up to or close to the top of the stock. The distance between the cheekpiece and the bead can also be worked out by portions of a circle scribed on the blank at different angles than the first curves.

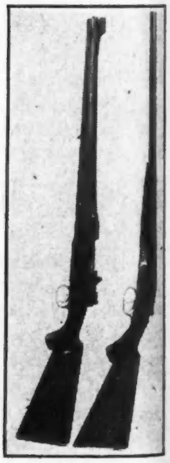
Another point where parts of circles should be used is in bringing the comb up from the grip (1 and 2). The comb should be undercut for best lines, but it is a critical point and must be right, to add rather than detract from the lines of the stock. If it is started ⅜ inch below the top line and then brought down parallel to the lower line of the cheekpiece and bottom stock line, it will look best. In other words, the bottom stock line and the lowest line of the cheekpiece and the upper line of the undercut at the comb should all be parallel (6, 7, and 8). Undercut it about ⅛ inch on both sides and bring it down the comb about three-quarters of the distance between the top of the cut and the grip, and from there blend it out to the shape of the grip. The front edge of the comb should be rounded from side to side. This will give a graceful downward curve to the upper line of the undercut, at the forward end.

One other point that is worth considering is the last step from the bead of the cheekpiece to the stock. Keep this edge nearly square to the stock or, in other words, at right angles to the stock. This gives the cheekpiece prominence by giving it the appearance of high relief.

Some of that patience I spoke of will be needed to keep from rounding these edges too much when sanding and oiling the stock.

The bottom of the grip at the rear edge (9) must not come below the stock line. The pistol grip cap will lower this just enough to look best if it protrudes below the grip from $\frac{1}{16}$ to $\frac{3}{32}$ inch. Thick caps and butt plates should be avoided, particularly at the edges where they continue the stock lines.

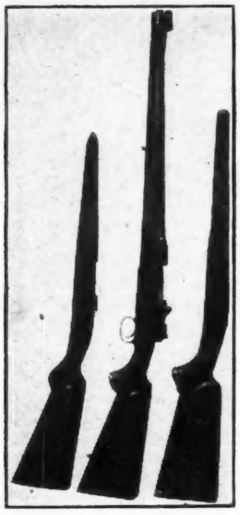
Another critical stock point is the relation of the top and lower grip lines between the receiver tang and comb. Many stocks are ruined by cutting the upper line too low at the comb. This will make the comb look out of place by appearing too high. However, you will also have to be careful not to bring this line too high. Both mistakes are seen very often and never fail to ruin the stock. Both the upper and lower grip lines run downward from the receiver. Of course, the lower line angle is determined by the distance from it to the trigger and the size of the shooter's hand, but the upper one is as free as a bird, giving you plenty of room for a bastard line. It is very difficult to give exact angles for this point. Generally, the lines will be the same distance apart from the receiver tang and the guard for about ¾ inch, but from there the space between will increase. For exact proportions you will have to use your own judgment. Study the illustration or copy another stock which is designed correctly at this point.



**There should be a close resemblance between a fine sporter and a well-designed shotgun. Grip on sporter is closer, but general profiles are very similar**

Recoil pads certainly do not belong on a rifle of this type. The best of them detract considerably from a fine stock, and to add insult to injury, some screwball had to make them pink. Some manufacturers evidently have some feeling for a fine stock and supply them in a walnut-brown color. If you consider a recoil pad a necessity, by all means get one of these brown ones. Another thing: Advertising on butt plates and pistol grip caps is definitely out of place. To get rid of it on a best grade job, it should be removed by refinishing or reshaping the parts if necessary. Another point too often overlooked is the manner in which some barrel makers or barrel fitters stamp their names and the caliber of the rifles on the barrels. It surely belongs there, but it should be there in as small letters as possible and in a straight line. On a really fine job such as we are considering, it would be best if done by an engraver.

Getting back to the stock, we come to another spot needing careful shaping—the sides of the stock around the magazine. The sides cannot be flat. To get them rounded at all is difficult without getting the width too great because of the depth of the magazine. You may find it necessary to reduce the depth to get the correct width and rounded sides. This job was explained in the May, 1946, RIFLEMAN in an article titled, "Getting The Gun You Want."


**Good and bad stock design. Stock at left is skimpy and poorly designed, while that on right errs in opposite direction, with unnecessary bulk and heavy lines. Sporter in center has graceful, well-designed shape.**

Once this part of the stock is satisfactory, it is best to jump to the fore-end tip because the lines between these two places will be straight and comparatively easy to shape. The true sporter design does not have any side panels, beavertail, or bulges of any sort. If the tip of the fore-end is made with the true circle in mind, it will come close to the best shape. Form it to a true curve up, down and across. If it measures 1⅛ to 1½ inches just behind the round portion, it will give good proportions to the balance of the fore-end. With the wood around the magazine shaped, carry the straight lines from the magazine to the fore-end tip. The top of the fore-end along the barrel channel will look best if it starts to slope downward about ⅛ inch from the channel. I would still prefer to start the curve right from the channel, but it leaves a sharp edge which will need very careful support until the barrel is in place.

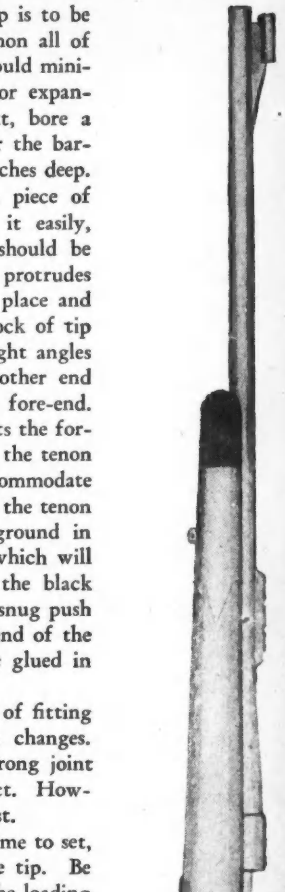
Many prefer an ebony or horn fore-end tip. However, it has the very undesirable habit of not expanding and contracting to the same degree as the wood, which will leave either the wood or horn high, depending on just how the moisture affects either piece. I have put some tips on that never gave any of this trouble and others that did. My guess is that more depends on the individual piece of wood than anything else. The best method of fitting is to form a tenon on the stock.

When the fore-end is completely shaped, cut it off about an inch and a half shorter than you want it when complete. One inch back from this cut scribe a line completely around the fore-end. From this line forward undercut the wood below the finished size about ⅛ inch. This can be done with files or chisels. Try to keep it as straight as possible. The depth the wood is undercut along the top at the channel will depend on how it is formed. If there is a flat left along the barrel of at least ⅛ inch, about half the width of this flat can be removed. If the fore-end is rounded right from the edge of the channel, the wood will have to be cut below the top stock line at the tenon. When the fore-end tip is fitted, half wood and half horn will show along this flat portion and in case of the curved shape only the tip material will show. It is best to leave a little flat along the channel if a tip is to be used. This will leave a complete tenon all of the way around the fore-end, and should minimize difficulties due to contraction or expansion of either wood or horn. Next, bore a ⅜-inch hole into the fore-end under the barrel channel. It should be about 2 inches deep. Make the hole of such size that a piece of ⅜-inch dowel rod will slide into it easily, but with a close fit. The dowel should be about 3 inches long so that an inch protrudes beyond the tenon. Glue the rod in place and allow to dry. Now, face up the block of tip material and bore a 2-inch hole at right angles to the finished face to accept the other end of the dowel sticking out of the fore-end. Slip the tip on the dowel until it meets the forward end of the tenon. Mark around the tenon on the tip and enlarge the hole to accommodate the tenon. Carefully fit the tip over the tenon by spotting it with red pigment ground in oil instead of the usual lampblack, which will not show the spots of contact on the black tip material. When it is fitted by a snug push and meets the shoulder at the back end of the tenon squarely all around, it can be glued in place.

I have found this the best method of fitting and the least affected by moisture changes. If it is done properly, it's a good strong joint because of the large surfaces in contact. However, it is not the easiest or the fastest.

After the glue has had plenty of time to set, the barrel channel can be cut in the tip. Be careful how the wood is lowered at the loading port. This should be brought down in convex form and not lowered much more than 5/16 of an inch. If it is dropped much below this amount, it will make the stock look weak and skimpy at this point. The fore-end tip should be between 2 and 2½ inches long.

Length of the fore-end is governed by the length of the shooter's arm, but not to exceed reasonable limits. Quick detachable swivels can be used if desired but they are heavy and bulky in the conventional design. Some of the flush-plate type are much better looking. It may really be an advantage under some circumstances to have the swivels quick detachable, but under most hunting conditions I have found them of no use. Usually, when a sling is put on a rifle, it


**This drawing by the author expresses his ideas of what a well-designed sporter should look like. Shortened magazine adds to trim outline. Rifle is designed for scope, and rear sight is "British Express" type**

stays there, and there is no point in adding useless gadgets.

The ⅞-inch or one-inch slings and screw-in type swivels will answer very well and look neater. It will also improve the appearance to have a sling made to order, omitting unnecessary holes and using lacing instead of hooks wherever possible. The sling may also have some hand tooling on it if it is not overdone. Why engravers and leather workers insist on floral designs, I don't know. They are completely inappropriate on a gun. Oak leaves or line tooling would be a better choice.

If a hunting scope is to be used, have leather lens covers made at the same time, so both sling and covers match. Small diamond inlays of black linen bakelite look well under the screw-in type swivels, but would be too large if placed under the base of a detachable flush-type swivel. But suit yourself here.

**ALL SALES OF DCM SUPPLIES, INCLUDING RIFLES AND AMMUNITION, HAVE BEEN TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED, EFFECTIVE OCT. 1. SEE THE NOTICE ON PAGE 39, THIS ISSUE**

Putting the finish on a stock is very difficult for most amateur stockers, simply because they lack the patience to wait. The materials used for a finish are not important compared to other parts of the job. First the stock must have *all* the grain raised and cut off. It may be necessary to raise it three times or fifteen times or any number of times, but regardless of how much time is spent doing it, it is still the easiest and the only way to get a good finish. Sanding must be done until *all* the marks are gone and the wood has a smooth satin feel.

The only secrets of getting a good finish are raising the grain properly, complete sanding, and TIME. If directions read to give a coat of oil one week to dry, double or triple the time and you will have a better job. Linseed oil is all that is needed for the finest finish on dense wood. The only time linseed oil will not give a satisfactory finish is on soft wood. Soft wood absorbs so much of the oil that the color of the wood is lost. A coat of varnish allowed to soak into the large pores of soft wood after the first coat of oil has dried will help to keep the wood from getting too dark. The varnish should be sanded off the surface of the stock with sandpaper and water. Use the sandpaper over a block to keep it from removing the finish below the surface. Use just enough water to keep the varnish cool, so that it is cut by the paper instead of being heated by friction and dragged out of the pores.

NO HUNTING
BY ORDER OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**"Honest, Warden, it was self-defense. I never seen such vicious rabbits."**

After the varnish, the stock can be finished by applying light coats of raw or boiled oil. Rub each coat a few minutes to work it into the wood and then give it plenty of time to dry. When the stock is filled, the finish can be ground off with pumice and oil, and then polished with oil and rotten stone. And again that caution: Do not try to cut the excess oil off until it feels *very* dry. Nothing will be gained by hurrying.

Checkering designs and methods for applying them have appeared in many previously published articles, and there is not much to add. My advice is to keep the design plain, without borders, and have it as nearly perfect as possible. If you have succeeded in keeping your job in the highest grade up to this point, don't spoil it by trying to checker it without plenty of practice. Checkering is not hard to do once the knack is acquired, but until then it is impossible to do a first-class job.

We had better give some thought to sights. If your sporter is to have a big-game scope mounted on it, I would advise you to omit a receiver sight. There are several reasons for this. First, the slide for windage will have to be removed from the block when any mount is used that holds the scope as low as it should be. On bridge-type mounts the whole sight has to be taken off. A fine stock is not helped any by the big cut necessary to accommodate the sight base, particularly when the base is removed. With a good scope mounted low in rigid mounts, you will have no need for any iron sights unless through serious accident. In this case either a cocking piece sight or a sight on the barrel will serve well enough and the looks of the stock will not be ruined by cuts for sights which are not in place. When I see a scope on a rifle and the open hole in the stock left by the removal of the receiver sight, it strikes me that not enough study had been given to the job and that the scope was an afterthought.

One of the best appearing and most practical auxiliary rear sights is the English type express sight. Also, with so few seen on rifles these days, it adds a touch of distinction. With three leaves carefully sighted in for 100, 200 and 300 yards, it makes a good emergency sight.

If you like engraving and have succeeded in keeping all the workmanship in a grade that merits it, by all means have it done. Be very careful about who engraves your gun. The best mechanic in the engraving field cannot do a first-class job unless he is also an artist.

Keep all screw slots running north and south except in the guard screws. Avoid screws with wide slots. They do not help the looks of a rifle. Check to be sure that all screw heads fit properly and closely in their counterbores or countersinks. Do not tolerate a screw with its slot off-center.

To sum up, I have omitted many very important things. However, it is taken for granted that such jobs as inletting, bedding, shaping and fitting, bluing, action work, et cetera, have been kept in the best grade. Without accuracy, a smooth, slick action, smooth and even-colored bluing and very close fitting between all steel and wood, this other work will not produce a first-class gun. Making a gun of this de luxe grade is a big undertaking, but patience, endless patience, can accomplish many things.

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# DUPLEX LOADING

When Charles M. O'Neil, Donald S. Hopkins and the writer first developed Duplex loading, I covered its effects and advantages in an article in The American Rifleman. At that time we did not know its full possibilities, but promised an article on the loading method. Patents were secured in the U. S. and Canada and the name O.K.H. copyrighted, and the patent applied for in Great Britain as well. After promising this article, however, we became involved in the war and, from a patriotic standpoint, did not want to publicize the system and have it fall into the hands of the enemy, with the possibility of its use against American troops. Later, the War Department sent me to Frankfort Arsenal where I put in a month Duplex-loading .50 caliber ammunition, giving it 202 feet more velocity for constant normal pressures with my best load, as well as several other loads giving from 100- to 150-foot gains in velocity for normal pressures. The Duplex system was then held confidential by the Ordnance Department and has only recently been released by them.

To begin with, the name Duplex is a misnomer. Immediately on publication of that former article, a lot of folks decided that the loads involved the mixing of two or more powders. The name Duplex referred to combustion rather than to a combination of powders.

In 1935 and early in 1936, while experimenting with a .25 caliber rifle made up on the .30 Newton case by Charles M. O'Neil and Con V. Schmitt, I found the rifle heated at a terrific rate and at that time decided we were firing the charge at the wrong end. When O'Neil came out for a big-game hunt with me that fall, I took the matter up with him. My theory was that if we had a tube to carry the primer flash to the forward third of the charge we could hold the powder charge in the cartridge case until it was completely consumed. By such a method we could start the bullet up the bore with a small portion of the powder charge, then after it was in motion we could burn a very heavy charge behind said projectile, without running into excessive pressures, and excessive heating at the rear end of the barrel.

**ELMER KEITH'S OWN STORY OF THE MYSTERY-SHROUDED DUPLEX LOADS, TOLD HERE FOR THE FIRST TIME . . .**

O'Neil worked on the idea all winter, fitting brass tubes into cases by means of threads, so that the primer flash was carried forward to the front half of the charge. He did all of the preliminary work and developed some very fast loads in the .30 Newton, then sent me the dope he had learned and some cases, so I could help further with the work. While he was working on the .30 Newton, I in turn Duplex-loaded the .280 Dubiel and the .300 Magnum, but found that both cases had entirely too much capacity for the bore and bullet weight with 4064 or other existing powders. Don Hopkins then joined us in the work and we decided on a .285 caliber cartridge. Don and I wanted it on a revised Magnum case, but O'Neil thought the '06 case would be large enough, and so it proved. So, we brought out the .285 O.K.H. on the '06 case and found that with a charge of 55 grains of duPont 4350 in a Duplex case and the 180 grain bullet that Western Tool & Copper Works brought out for us to our design, we had the flattest-shooting load we had ever seen for such a bullet weight. Over 400 yards the midway trajectory was just five inches, as compared to a seven-and-one-half inch midway trajectory for the .300 Magnum factory 180 grain load, with boattail bullet. On hard, five-eighths-inch steel plate our .285 O.K.H. with the above mentioned 180 grain Duplex load, blew corks out of the plate at fifty yards, while the .300 Magnum factory 180 grain load would only penetrate three-quarters of the way through at twenty yards.

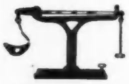
Results were even more spectacular on game. I had shot a lot of deer and other big game at long range with the .280 Dubiel with 180 grain bullets, and found that those WT&CW bullets held together perfectly at 350 to 500 yards. Even at 300 yards they would take an old mule buck in the flank and lodge under the skin on the chest, perfectly expanded but not blown up. I purposely had my first .285 O.K.H. cut with a groove diameter of .2885 inch, so I could use those same 180 grain .280 Dubiel bullets. With the .285 O.K.H. Duplex load behind them, in the '06 case, I found that the bullet regularly blew to atoms even at extreme ranges. Bucks shot in the flank and ranging forward showed conclusively that the bullet would wreck the liver and then simply explode in the lungs, not even marking the rib cage. The largest fragment was always the base cap of the bullet. This proved to give much higher velocity than I had obtained with the 180 grain bullet in the .280 Dubiel at 2,900 feet, as chronographed by Colonel Whelen at Springfield Arsenal. I believe his figures were 2,925 feet per second with a safe working load behind the 180 grain bullet in that rifle.

Hopkins and I proceeded to kill nearly all species of American game with the load. He killed everything from a record Alaskan brownie to sheep and deer. The first bullets brought out for us by WT&CW had a hard, brittle jacket and all blew to atoms. We took the matter up with them and they brought out another 180 grain bullet of .2850-inch diameter, and with a softer tougher jacket, thicker near the point. This worked very well, always getting into the boiler room for us, though as yet I have not found a single bullet that was not badly blown up at close range and often even out at such crazy ranges as 600 yards. Last fall I killed one old mule buck at 600 yards or over. He was turned up a very steep mountain and his whole body and neck were exposed. From a prone position, with the rifle zeroed for 300 yards, I held over the tops of his horns and the 180 grain slug dropped into his right flank, demolished the liver, and ranged forward into the lungs, where it completely disintegrated. No marks showed on the rib cage at all. The first three shots all went low, below the buck, as I thought him only 400 to 450 yards away.

My rifle, with Sukalle barrel, measures exactly .2850 inch in groove diameter, the same as the bullets, while Hopkins had some made up by O'Neil with a larger groove diameter of .2865. The same bullets gave much better penetration for him, going right through the shoulders of Alaskan Dall rams. Two planted behind the near shoulder of a record brownie penetrated completely through the vitals and to the skin on the off side. This I believe was due to velocity loss from the oversize groove diameter and to nothing else, as I have never found more than large fragments of the bullets, except on lung shots on elk at 300 to 325 yards. However, the shots into the liver seemed to explode the bullets completely, while those through the lung cavity held together much better out at long range, but blew up badly at close range.

I shot another huge old mule buck last fall at 300 yards, quartering away from me, with that 180 grain Duplex load. It again demolished the liver and blew up in the lungs. Also, a big elk running toward me at 100 yards was hit in the chest. It blew the aorta off the heart, demolished the left lung, and fragments lodged in the ribs on the left side. Two bull elk I killed, one at 300 and one at 325 yards with heart shots, showed complete penetration on the longer-ranged animal and the bullet, at least a large portion, was found under the skin on off side of the bull killed with a heart shot at 300 yards.

That load is dynamite on any American game if placed in the chest cavity but I do not believe it big enough for raking shots on the larger game at all. Also, one seldom is offered that ideal chance at the chest cavity. This load has proved the flattest over long ranges and with by far the greatest explosive effect out at extreme ranges of any we have yet used for all our lighter big game, caribou down to coyotes. It far exceeds standard loads in the .300 Magnum with 180 grain, or the .276 Dubiel and .276 Carlson in flat trajectory and remaining velocity, even though the same bullets are employed in both the standard and O.K.H. Duplex loads.



So much for results; now for the loading principles.

The powder is compressed in all Duplex loads, and the chamber must be fairly near minimum over the body of the case. In assembling Duplex loads, the powder charge is poured into the case through a long tube to settle it, and even then the charge comes well up into the neck of the case and is then compressed by seating of the long, heavy bullet.

When fired, the primer flash is carried through the base half of the charge to the front end of the tube, where it first contacts the forward end of the charge, spreading out in a funnel shape and igniting the forward third of the charge. This starts the bullet gently up the bore, with a minimum of powder consumption and pressure, and when the bullet is on its way, the charge burns back to the heel of the case. Thus, only pushing gas is used to drive the bullet, the forward third of the charge being completely consumed before the bullet is half way up the barrel. Once the projectile is in motion, it is then possible to burn a very heavy charge behind it. The rifle being chambered close over the body of the case allows for little expansion, so that the compressed charge burns more slowly than standard air-space loadings. No powder is driven out of the muzzle unburned and the muzzle flash is greatly lessened. The muzzle of the barrel heats up first, back to about the front of the forestock, while the breech end of the barrel remains cool, even when you cannot hold your hand on the muzzle. Throat life is greatly lengthened, as burning and unburned powder is not funneled up the bore after the bullet. Chamber pressures are mild for such velocity, as the pressure time curve is greatly extended up the bore of the gun. Recoil is greatly lessened and is a big, slow, heavy push, rather than the dirty, sharp jab from conventional rifle loadings.

*While Chief of Field Service, Ordnance Department, during the war, I received a letter from my long-time friend, Elmer Keith, telling me he was working in the small arms shop at Ogden Arsenal, which was one of the establishments under my command. I brought this fact to the attention of Col. Studler, chief of the research and development service of our small arms division, and as a result, Keith was ordered to Frankford Arsenal, to find out if Duplex loading had any military application. The Ordnance Department has not made public the results of his work in connection with the .50 caliber machine gun cartridge, though the addition of a flash tube to this case would have involved manufacturing changes which probably proved inadvisable when maximum production was required.*—MAJ. GEN. JULIAN S. HATCHER.

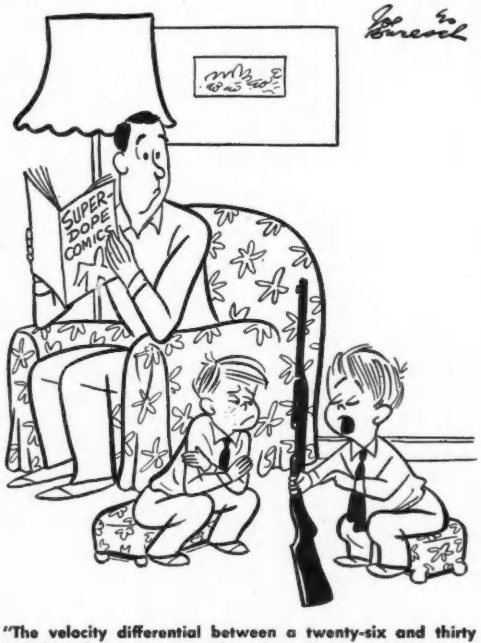
Rifles with excessive head space produced no case ruptures, as the pressure started the bullet and drove the case back solidly against the bolt at the same time, before the heavy pressure peak was reached. Although the total combustion time may be measured only in millionths of a second, the total combustion period is lengthened, nevertheless.

The fact that the bulk of the powder charge is burned inside the cartridge case, combined with the fact that the bullet is well on its way and moving before the pressure-time curve records maximum pressure is the secret of the loads. Also, the fact that the bullet is started by gas generated from a small portion of the total powder charge and is then driven ever faster, and accelerated all the way to the muzzle, is the one and only reason for the barrel heating at the muzzle end first. The pressure is there all right, but instead of being at a peak about the front end of the cartridge case, it is extended much farther up the bore, and cases are not so terribly expanded as is usual with heavy loads in standard loadings. The fired cases extract easily and freely and the primers show no excessive pressure.

The tube must be the right length for a given case capacity and bore capacity. If it is too short, the charge is fired too fast, just as if a badly oversize chamber is used. When the tube is the right length, the report is longer than standard loadings and the recoil feels like a long, sustained push instead of a sharp jab. Chamber pressures are much less for the same velocity recordings than with standard loadings. O'Neil went to Western Cartridge Company during the start of the war and they asked him to load 150 grain .30-'06 cartridges to exactly 2,700 feet, which he did with Duplex cases and our loading system. Then, when the cartridges showed a uniform 2,700-foot velocity, they were tested for pressure and the pressure gun gave an average of 10,000 pounds less with the Duplex than with the standard load. Hence, you can drive a bullet at normal or standard velocity with less pressure, or if the pressures are built up to standard, then you can obtain much higher velocity for a given pressure with Duplex loads than with any form of standard loading.

The case must be of the right capacity for a given bullet weight and rate of powder combustion, and the powder, case, and bullet must be in balance for the finest results. When such occurs, as with the .285 O.K.H. 180 grain Duplex load, you obtain very remarkable results, obtainable in no other way with the same weight of powder charge. If the case is too large, then it will not work, as you cannot then eliminate air space and it will fire too fast. If the case is too small for the bore capacity, you will not be able to increase velocities with Duplex loading over standard loadings. Thus, our .333 O.K.H. will actually give a few feet higher velocity with 62 grains of 4350 and the 300 grain bullet that can be obtained by my Duplex load of 60 grains of the same powder and the same bullet weight. However, the recoil of the two loads is an entirely different proposition. Mrs. Keith has used my 60 grain 4350 and 300 grain bullet Duplex load on game without ill effects, and Col. George W. Busbey's wife also fired this load without any complaints at all on recoil, and it develops close to 2,400 feet velocity, but the same load fired from a standard case does have considerable recoil.

We found that Duplex loads could be further increased in velocity by using a slow-burning powder next to the bullet, such as 4350, in the .285 O.K.H., then using a faster burning powder like duPont 4064 in the middle of the case, and then, in the head or heel of the case, using about a third of the charge of a still faster-burning powder, such as 4320. O'Neil used brown-paper separators between the different charges, but I prefer to load them without any such paper separators. When the long heavy 180 grain bullet is seated the powder is compressed so tightly that it can never move at all. When fired, the slow 4350 starts the bullet up the bore, then as the combustion reaches back to the rear of the end of the ignition tube, the faster 4064 powder burns and finally the still faster 4320. The bullet was greatly accelerated and much higher velocities were obtained than we had any use for, simply because we had no expanding bullets that would stand up to the work, at such crazy velocities. While one single 55 grain charge of 4350 will give that .285 O.K.H. 180 grain bullet a velocity in excess of the .280 Dubiel, .275 Dubiel, .275 H&H, or 180 grain bullets in the .300 Magnum, the triple Duplex charge will give it still higher velocities, but we need newer and better bullet construction designed to stand such velocities without exploding on impact with game. That is the system I used during the war for my highest velocity increase in .50 caliber cartridges with the 702 grain bullet. However, many loads were worked out for the Ordnance Department that showed a clear 150-foot gain in velocity with one standard powder.



**"The velocity differential between a twenty-six and thirty inch barrel is no greater than the velocity variation from shot to shot with a given load in a given barrel . . ."**

This triple Duplex also worked well for O'Neil in the .265 O.K.H. and greatly increased velocities over the standard one-powder Duplex load of 45 grains of 4350 and 160 grain bullet in that caliber.

Duplex loading will not work at all with any air space, nor with a charge that is not compressed. Neither will it show a gain in velocity over standard loads if the case is too small. We do not employ any free boring and do not believe in free boring at all. We want a proper bullet seat, not over .025-inch clearance between the ogive of the ball and the ends of the lands, for perfect initial combustion, maximum accuracy and long barrel life. We do not believe in allowing a bullet to jump free for two inches with an enormous powder charge funneling gas past the bullets until it strikes the lands, in order to burn a huge powder charge and obtain high velocity, at the cost of erratic pressures, greatly increased throat wear, and short barrel life.

As soon as materials are available, O'Neil will be able to make up rifles and loads and anyone can test them to his own satisfaction, thus learning first hand our actual results obtained so long ago, and necessarily kept under cover, so long as we had a war to win. There are many tricks to Duplex loading and the loads will likely cost more money than standard loads but they also produce results in high velocity, lessened throat wear, lessened recoil, and greater accuracy, obtainable with no other system of loading today.

Many systems can be used for fitting flash tubes in the cartridge case. At Frankford Arsenal, I had a small pocket cut in the bottom of the primer pocket, the normal flash hole enlarged and the steel tubes turned down, leaving a small flange on one end. They were then simply pressed into the case. O'Neil has found that they are best if screwed into rifle cases, and this is the system I wanted to use in caliber .50. However, I believe the primer and flash tube can be pressed into the case just as easily and form just as perfect a gas seal. All artillery cases are loaded and primed in this manner, and it will also work in small arms cases.

J. Omar Cole of Peru, Indiana, has used the .285 O.K.H. during the past two seasons with 180 grain Duplex loads that I loaded for him, and says it is the best killer and the flattest-shooting rifle he has ever owned. He has used that load on all Alberta game—moose, elk, grizzly, goats, sheep, and mule deer, and found that the results were exactly the same as those obtained with Duplex loadings by O'Neil, Hopkins, and myself on game.

We kept quiet for so long for security reasons alone, as we did not want the Germans to add this development to their antitank artillery. Many RIFLEMAN readers wrote me very sarcastic letters about Duplex loading, but I preferred to keep mum until the war was won, and General Hatcher obtained a release from the war Department, before telling the tale.

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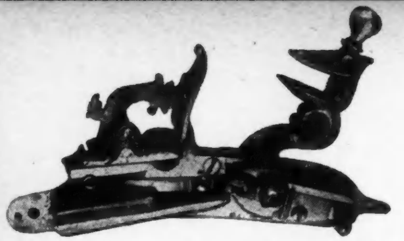


Fig. 1: Inner mechanism of a typical snaphaunce

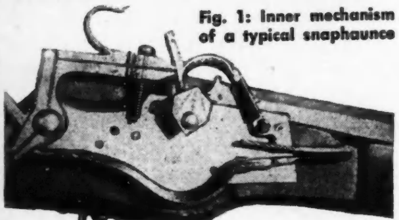


Fig. 2: Early Baltic snaphaunce. Shape of lock shows wheellock ancestry

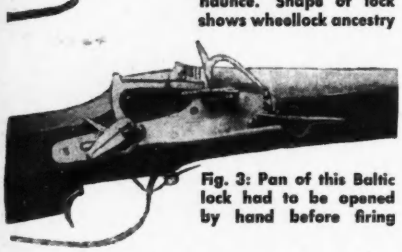


Fig. 3: Pan of this Baltic lock had to be opened by hand before firing

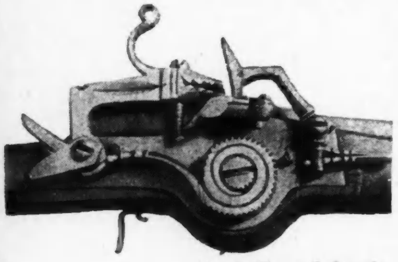


Fig. 4: The coiled mainspring of this Baltic lock is an unusual feature

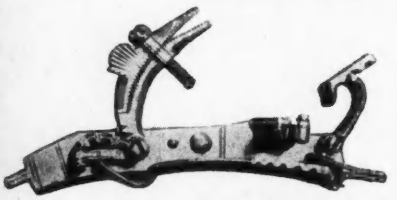


Fig. 5: Though action is identical with 4, this lock shows later origin

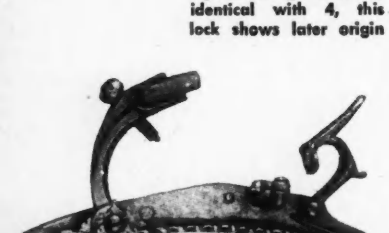


Fig. 6: Lock of similar gun in collection of Metropolitan Museum of Art

# DEVELOPMENT OF

# THE BALTI

By THOM

In describing the history of firearms it is usual to fix upon five principal types of lock mechanism as covering the period previous to the adoption of fulminate of mercury. The hand cannon was, as its name implies, ignited by hand with slowmatch or a hot iron. The matchlock retained the slowmatch, but substituted a movable clamp for the human hand. The wheellock utilized the friction of a revolving wheel against a block of iron pyrites to generate sparks. The snaphaunce substituted flint in a spring-actuated holder for the pyrites, and struck it against a steel plate (the frizzen) pivoted above a pan of priming powder, this pan being protected, when not in use, by a sliding lid. The flintlock united the steel plate with the cover for the pan, so that as the flint struck the steel, the latter would tilt backward and allow the sparks to fall upon the priming powder. The term "Miquelet lock" has been rather loosely applied to an early form of flintlock which was popular until quite modern times in Africa and the Near East, and which had the principal mechanism on the outside of the lockplate.

Of all these forms the flintlock was certainly the most popular and the most widely used. Invented towards the middle of the seventeenth century, it held undisputed sway in Europe until well into the first quarter of the nineteenth, when the Rev. Mr. Forsyth's application of fulminate of mercury stirred inventors to the detonating gun locks which culminated in the percussion firearms our grandfathers used.

We are all acquainted with the flintlock, but the snaphaunce is a less familiar mechanism, for it was in vogue for probably a shorter time than any other lock. It never held the field alone; during its entire popularity the wheellock still had many adherents; in fact, this earlier and complicated mechanism even overlapped the flintlock by a considerable margin. Just when the snaphaunce originated no one knows; but it is generally agreed that it first appeared in the second half of the sixteenth century and lasted into the first half of the eighteenth. It is somewhat vaguely considered that the snaphaunce was the immediate predecessor of the flintlock which appeared as the single, sudden invention of forging frizzen integral with pan cover. Yet we should expect, with two such closely related lock forms, to find some sort of transition between them.

From the neighborhood of the Baltic Sea there come a number of guns, most of them of the so-called "Tschinke" form or one closely resembling it, which indicate very definite progress of this transition, at least insofar as it occurred in that particular locality. They show clearly that the change was not a sudden one, but was accomplished through a number of intermediate steps, and they also show that the great invention which did away with the snaphaunce as a practical weapon was not, as is generally understood, the amalgamation of frizzen and pan cover, but quite another alteration of the construction of the lock. To make discussion easier, let us first examine the construction of a typical snaphaunce. There are many varieties of the snaphaunce, but Figure 1, from a pistol in the collection of the late Theodore Offerman, may be taken as fairly representative of the middle period of these locks. When we consider it in detail, we find six main divisions, each with subsidiary parts:

(a) Lockplate including pan.

(b) Hammer assembly, which consists of a pair of jaws for holding the flint, a screw for clamping the jaws together, a device for maintaining the jaws in a parallel position, a neck which acts as a lever arm, and a base.

(c) Driving assembly, consisting of mainspring and tumbler.

(d) Sear assembly, consisting of a double sear which engages with a notch on the tumbler. The assembly includes bridle, first sear with pivot and spring, and

# FLINTLOCK

HOOPES

second sear with pivot and spring. The action is similar to that of the wheellock, for the first sear, although it engages the tumbler, does not make a positive engagement, and the strain of the compressed mainspring would force the sear out of its slanting notch and allow the hammer to fall were the first sear not supported firmly in place by the spring-actuated second sear. This second sear, acting at right angles to the first, is pulled to the rear by the trigger of the gun just as in the case of a wheellock.

(e) Frizzen assembly, consisting of frizzen, frizzen shaft, cam and frizzen spring.

(f) Pan cover assembly, consisting of pan cover, shaft and pivots, check spring and opening bar.

The action of the lock is as follows: The hammer is cocked by pulling back with the thumb against the resistance of the mainspring. At the full cock position the hammer is caught by the sear; the pan is presumed to be closed, and the frizzen in its lowered position. When the trigger is pulled, the sear is released from engagement with the tumbler, and the hammer falls, driven by the strain of the mainspring against the toe of the tumbler. As it does so, an upper projection on the tumbler engages with a spur on the underside of the opening bar, which in turn presses against the pan cover shaft, pushing it until a slanting section of the shaft comes under the pan cover check spring, the force of which, bearing on the slanting shaft, quickly snaps the pan cover to the full-open position.

When ready for use, the snaphaunce is carried with hammer cocked, pan primed and closed, and frizzen down. A touch upon the trigger will release the entire action and fire the gun. When immediate action is not expected, and it is desired to carry the gun ready for use, yet with more safety, the frizzen is pushed back out of the way, the hammer is let down gently with the thumb, and the pan cover, which has thereby been opened, is pushed back to the closed position by hand. Thus, the gun can be carried indefinitely without danger of spilling the priming, for the pan being closed, there is no way of powder being lost, even though the flint is forward. To shoot the gun it is necessary merely to cock the hammer and to draw the frizzen forward again.

Now let us consider our Baltic specimens. Figure 2 represents the lock of a gun at Schloss Skokloster, Sweden. This is apparently a true snaphaunce, although complete details of its construction are not available. Observe the sliding pan cover with its projection for opening with the thumb. It may well be that this is one of the very early snaphaunces which did not have an opening bar, and which had to be opened by hand just at the moment of firing. This is the more likely to be true in view of the other specimens about to be examined. Note the curious ornament at the end of the pan resembling somewhat that on Moorish guns. Note also the very peculiar form of hammer and the mainspring—integral with frizzen spring—which acts in the Spanish style, upward on a posterior projection of the hammer base. Observe especially the peculiar curve of the mainspring, which, with the shape of the lockplate and stock, is so strongly reminiscent of the wheellock. Although the illustration does not show it, it seems almost certain that the release is effected by a sear which pierces the lockplate and operates against the upper edge of the same posterior projection of the hammer, of which the lower edge receives the thrust of the mainspring.

Figure 3 shows the lock of a gun in the Livrustkammare, in Stockholm. Here we observe a similar construction, except that here obviously the pan has to be opened by hand. The mainspring does not show the peculiar wheellock dip, but in other respects the lock is similar to that of the preceding.

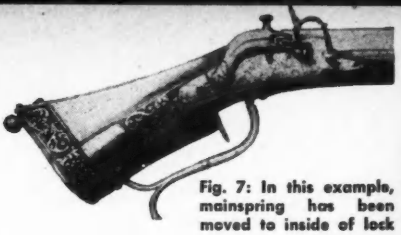


**Fig. 7: In this example, mainspring has been moved to inside of lock**

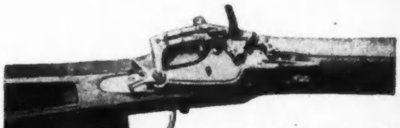


**Fig. 8: Frizzen of this lock acts as safety when pan is primed and shut**

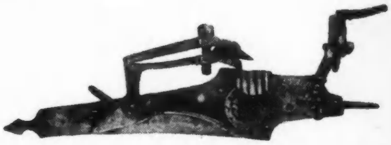


**Fig. 9: This gun has turning frizzen, but retains archaic mainspring**

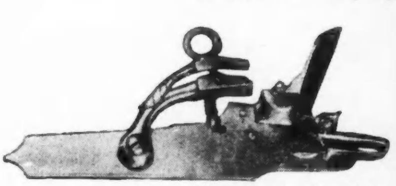


**Fig. 10: Another Baltic gun. Note safety frizzen, as in Figs. 8 and 9**

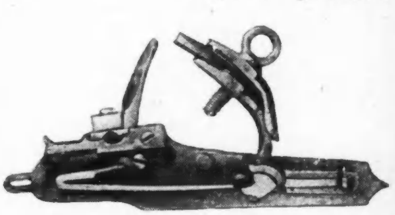


**Fig. 10a: Inner face of this lock shows mechanism similar to wheellock**

THOMAS TEMPLE HOOPES *is on the staff of the City Art Museum of St. Louis, and is one of the country's outstanding specialists in ancient firearms.*

*The present article was originally published in an Armor and Arms Club book presented to Dr. Bashford Dean, late curator of arms and armor at Manhattan's Metropolitan Museum of Art, on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday.*

*The author is indebted to the late Theodore Offerman, William G. Renwick, Count Brahe of Schloss Skokloster, and to the authorities of the Livrustkammare, Stockholm and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, for permission to reproduce the figures used with the article.*

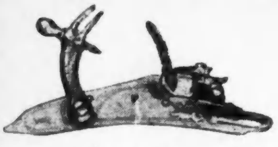


Fig. 11: Lock of gun dated 1722, in Renwick Collection

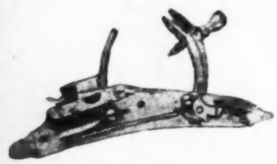


Fig. 11a: Mechanism betrays its later origin in every way

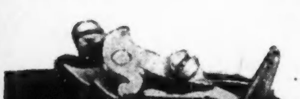


Fig. 11b: Absence of half-cock is primitive feature

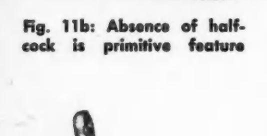


Fig. 12: Lock of German hunting gun in Renwick Coll.

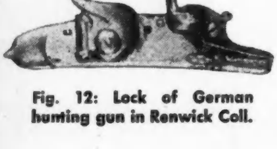


Fig. 12a: Inner mechanism of lock shown in Fig. 12

Figure 4 (Skokloster) shows a lock, of which the most pronounced feature is the very extraordinary mainspring. The shape of the stock, the shape of lockplate, and not only the shape, but the serrated ornamentation of the helical body of the spring proclaim the wheellock ancestry. Here again we have the hand-turned pan cover as in the preceding figure. The hammer action is identical with that of Figures 2 and 3, but the great advance in the present lock is one that can be seen only with difficulty. If one looks very closely at the point of contact of the pan cover and the lower edge of the frizzen, one will observe in the photograph a slight high-light. This gleam resolves itself, upon study, into the representation of a small horizontal enlargement of the frizzen's lower edge, which more or less corresponds to the opening of the pan. Thus, we have in this lock a radical departure from the snaphaunce principle, for while the gun can be carried like the snaphaunce with the hammer down, pan closed, and the frizzen drawn back, yet when the gun is to be prepared for immediate action, the pan cover is slid out of the way by hand, and the frizzen is brought forward into firing position. In this position the expanded lip of the frizzen amply protects the powder in the pan from stray sparks, etc. When the hammer is down, the gun is a snaphaunce; when cocked and ready to fire, it is for the moment a true flintlock.

Figure 5 (Skokloster) illustrates the same type of lock with the exception of the hammer and the wheellock reminiscence in the form of the mainspring. Here the mainspring if of simple straight form, but its action is identical, as is also that of the sear. The hammer has lost its right-angled bend and has become smoothly curved.

Figure 6 is a similar lock on a gun in the Collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Charles M. Schott Donation.

In Figure 7 (Livrustkammare, Stockholm) we see a new development. The mainspring has moved to the inner side of the lockplate, but the action is the same: a single sear passes through the lockplate and acts upon the upper edge of a posterior projection of the hammer base. Here again the frizzen has a horizontal lip which covers the pan when the gun is about to be fired. The form of the end of the pan clearly indicates that a manually operated pan cover was at one time attached, and the need for such a pan cover is definitely shown in the photograph, which makes clear the fact that the pan cannot be closed while the hammer is down unless some such auxiliary pan cover be available.

So we perceive that in these locks the aim has always been to provide a method whereby: (1) the hammer could be at rest and the mainspring unstrained, yet still have the pan closed; (2) the gun could be carried ready for action with the hammer cocked, yet with the frizzen thrown back for safety, still leaving the pan closed; and finally (3) the gun could be prepared for instant use with frizzen in position, and pan covered not by a sliding cover but by one integral with the frizzen, so that an opening bar should be unnecessary, and the opening of the pan absolutely certain.

In Figure 8 (Livrustkammare, Stockholm) we find another way of attacking the problem. This lock brings us back to the primitive forms with stock and lockplate shaped like those of the wheellock, with the mainspring curved to correspond with the archaic lockplate form and with right-angled hammer shaft. Here, however, there is but one pan cover, while the frizzen, instead of being separately mounted, is attached to it by a pivot. The illustration shows the hammer down, and consequently the frizzen partially thrown back and the pan partially opened. Were there a flint in place in the jaws of the hammer, the pan would open still further. This, however, could be—in actual service—avoided by the simple expedient of turning the frizzen on its pivot, so that the pan would remain closed, while the projecting flint would not reach the frizzen at all. Thus the hammer could be carried down or cocked, with the frizzen still turned out of the way, so that an accidental discharge would be impossible. To alter the gun from this position of "safety" to the position of "ready" it would merely be necessary to turn the frizzen back to the position shown in the illustration.

In Figure 9 (National Rifle Association collection), the mainspring is similar to that of Figure 4, and there is a turning

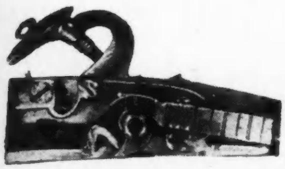


Fig. 12b: Wedge keeps hammer from catching on "dog"

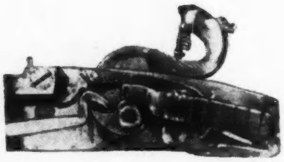


Fig. 12c: Mechanism of the same lock, in cocked position

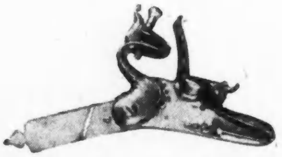


Fig. 13: Lock of early flintlock gun in the Renwick Collection

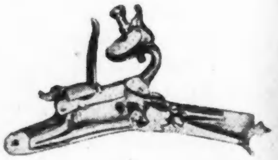
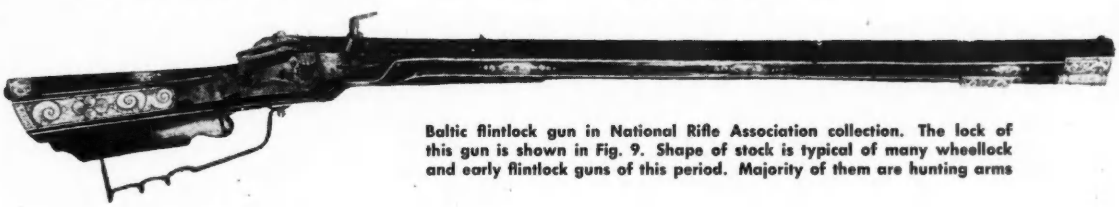


Fig. 13a: Inner mechanism shows half cock of true flintlock

frizzen, as in 8. The interior shows a simple sear projecting through the lockplate and acting on the toe of the hammer.

Major H. B. C. Pollard illustrates a somewhat similar lock in his "History of Firearms," page 24, Figure 4. He describes it as being intended for use with iron pyrites as used in the wheellock, rather than flint. The present writer hesitates to accept this theory as fully proved, but feels that whether this particular lock is intended for the use of pyrites or not, it is mechanically interesting as a link in the evolutionary chain, being like Figure 8 except that the hammer has no bridle and that the mainspring is now on the inner side of the lockplate.

Another remarkable variation is shown in Jackson, "European Hand Firearms," page 23. The author says:


Baltic flintlock gun in National Rifle Association collection. The lock of this gun is shown in Fig. 9. Shape of stock is typical of many wheellock and early flintlock guns of this period. Majority of them are hunting arms

"In Figure 43 is shown an early and rare form of lock which, although not the true type of snaphaunce, is very similar. Unlike the snaphaunce the steel is attached to the top of the pan cover by a screw swivel. When the doghead falls to a certain angle the pan cover flies back, but not before the pyrites strikes the steel.

"This interesting lock is illustrated at full cock in order to show the extraordinary angle of the doghead, from which it might be excusable to think that the pyrites could not strike the face of the steel truly, but such is not the case."

It is unfortunate that Mr. Jackson does not bring out one important point: is the pan cover opened by an opening bar from the tumbler, or is it forced back by the pressure of the descending flint against the frizzen? In the latter case, the lock would not be in any sense a snaphaunce, but would be a flintlock, as far as the pan cover was concerned. The swivel frizzen is apparently designed to act as a safety, just as the turning frizzens of Figures 8, 9 and 10 were used, except that in this case the frizzen is tilted back rather than turned around. It might, however, be conceivable that the action of the pan cover is directed by a bar from an inside tumbler, and that the frizzen is forced backward, not sliding but rotating on its swivel at the same instant the pan cover is pushed out of the way. The action of the sear is not clearly shown in the cut. However, there probably is some form of tumbler release.

Figure 10 is a lock on a Tschinke in the collection of Mr. William G. Renwick. This lock illustrates a simple form of such a tumbler release. Details of it may be seen more clearly in Figure 10a, where it will be observed that the action is essentially that of the double sear release as applied to the wheellock. The tumbler has one extension, against which bears the nose of the mainspring, and another which presses against the primary sear. The pressure comes along a sloping plane, so that the tendency is for the tumbler to force the primary sear out of engagement, thus permitting the fall of the hammer. However, the primary sear is blocked when it comes into engagement by a spring-actuated secondary sear, which must be pushed back by the trigger in order to allow the hammer to fall. Note in this lock the wheellock shape of the lockplate, the typical curved hammer shaft and the peculiar form of the upper jaw of the hammer. Note also the rotating frizzen as in Figures 8 and 9.

Figure 11 is a lock from another gun in the Renwick Collection which bears the extremely late date, for a gun of this type, of 1722. Here the lock shows in every way its later origin. Note shape and ornamentation of lockplate, alteration in form of upper jaw of hammer, modelling of pan, and of frizzen spring finial. Note that rotating frizzen is exactly similar to that of Figure 10. The release, on the other hand, is much more sophisticated, for observe in Figure 11 a and b how the tumbler is hung in a bridle similar to that of high grade flintlock pistols of the time, and how a single sear operates against a single notch in the tumbler. Note particularly that there is no half-cock notch; nor is one necessary, for the gun can be carried with the lock perfectly safe, in either position of the hammer, by merely rotating the frizzen.

Turn now to Figure 12 (Renwick Collection). Here we have yet one more, though not a Scandinavian, but German, attempt to solve the same problem. Figures 11a and b show the inner mechanism of this flintlock to be similar to that of Figure 10. There is no separate rotating or swivel frizzen. There is, however, another device, the "dog"—a separate hook pivoted to the exterior of the lockplate and engaging with a notch in the base of the hammer shaft. When it is desired to put the gun in a condition of safety, the hammer is lowered half way from its full-cock position, and the hook of the dog slipped over the notch in the hammer, which can then travel no further. In this particular specimen an ingenious wedge,

*(Continued on page 33)*

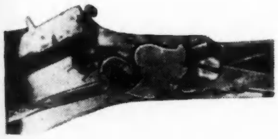


Fig. 13b: This close-up shows half-cock notch in the tumbler

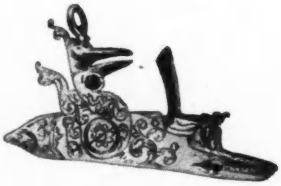


Fig. 14: Dog lock of flintlock gun in the Metropolitan Museum

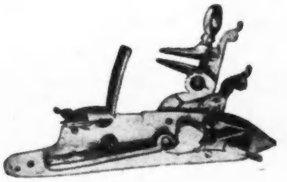


Fig. 14a: "Dog" is not connected to the inner mechanism of lock

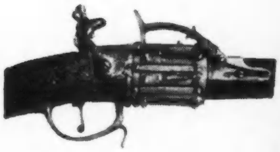


Fig. 15: A rare revolving gun, made in the late 17th Century

Visitors Grab Top Honors In Rifle Tourney
Pistol Char
To Fire He
Colonel Wins Pistol Shoot
Rifle Shooters
States In Altoo
Rifles
NW Regional Will
80 Fro
New Haven Gunner Altoona Victor
ALTOONA, Pa., July 6.—(AP.)
WashingtonBoyCopsTop
nors in Rifle Tourney
Wins Big
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ol Champ
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# TARGETS and TYPEWRITERS

### LIKE EVERY OTHER SPORT, SHOOTING NEEDS ALL THE PUBLICITY IT CAN GET!

Shooting is a major sport. You know it. We know it. It's about time the nonshooting public and the newspapers of this country find out about it.

No one has to tell you that the life of our country may depend on the very game we keep alive. It is *that* important. So, there is no reason why our shooting personalities and our tournaments should not share the sports pages *equally* with baseball, football, basketball, tennis, golf, and other major sports. There is no reason why the names of our national champions and near champions should not become as familiar household words as Ted Williams, Joe DiMaggio, Byron Nelson, Doc Blanchard, Hank Greenberg, Johnny Weismuller, and dozens of others.

You recognized those names and could place them in their right categories immediately. We would be willing to bet you couldn't name our five major shooting champions without some thought.

That's the job before us. With a little more effort, *by all of us*, it can be done. All it takes is publicity—lots of it.

Here in Washington we think we are doing a good job. But we are a small staff in a large country, and we need your help. We can take care of the major newspapers and national news services, but we need your help locally, at the roots of the problem.

How can you help us? That's easy. Become disgustingly publicity conscious. Get that way and do something about it.

When you decide to have a tournament, feed your local newspaper with every detail about the meet—when it's going to be held, where it's going to held, who is going to be in it. Be sure to give some reason *why* it is being held. Don't be satisfied with one release. Feed your local sports editor with as much information as you can get out.

Make sure he gets the results. If the meet lasts more than one day, give him results every day, with a big windup for the finals.

We know that publicity is not your business, and you can say to us, "That's all very fine, but how do we go about it."

At your next club meeting, appoint a publicity man. He doesn't have to know how to write. Newspapers have rewrite men who are paid to put a story in shape. All your publicity man will have to do is see that the newspaper gets the material. Have him meet the sports writers. Invite the newspaper boys out to shoot once in a while, and before you know it they will be begging for the dope.

Have them meet your best shooters. Build up your personalities locally. If you have any nationally known sports figure in your locality, have your shooting champion's picture taken with him. Send it to the newspapers and they will print it. Hook on to a star and you will soon have one of your own.

Discuss the problem at your next meeting. Decide what you have to sell; then write to the Publicity Division of the NRA in Washington and we will plan your campaign for you. Send us all the dope; we will write your sample releases and tell you what should be done.

It's not an overnight job we have before us. It's a long tedious one. But let's get to the point where John Public wants the autograph of a Wayne Moore or a Harry Reeves just as much as he does of a Ted Williams.

It's a great sport we have and it deserves its rightful place in the sports world. And we are the only people who can put it there.—Paul B. Cardinal.

A LITTLE KNOWN CHAPTER IN
JAPANESE MILITARY HISTORY—

# ARISAKA ANCESTRY

### By LT. COMDR. M. K. SHORT

IN THE LAST FEW YEARS, thousands of German, Italian, and Japanese rifles have been brought home as souvenirs by returning servicemen. The standard Mauser, Mannlicher-Carcano, and Arisaka actions have become familiar to American riflemen everywhere. Recently, however, another Japanese rifle has turned up. It is of considerable historic interest because of its unusual action.

This rifle is bored and chambered for the standard 6.5 mm. Arisaka cartridge and has the same barrel, sights, magazine, and fittings as the Arisaka, but the action is that of the Italian Mannlicher-Carcano. Only a few of these weapons have been found. They do not bear the emblem of the Rising Sun on the receiver, as do other military weapons of the Japanese Empire, and they show workmanship so superior to that usually found on Jap arms that they are believed to have been manufactured in Europe for the Nipponese Army.

Those who have handled any number of Arisaka rifles will know that while the basic design of the action is really a simple modification of the Mauser, the weapons usually suffer from inferior workmanship which results in excessive head space and a poor trigger pull. In the case of this "Arisaka-Carcano," however, the parts are so carefully machined that it is difficult to force the bolt handle down on an oversize cartridge case, and the action itself, like the true Carcano, has one of the smoothest trigger pulls ever devised.

The finish on the exterior of the barrel and action is of satiny smoothness, and the inletting is superior to anything usually found below the grade of fine sporting or target arms. Everything seems to indicate that these are samples especially made for the Imperial Government.

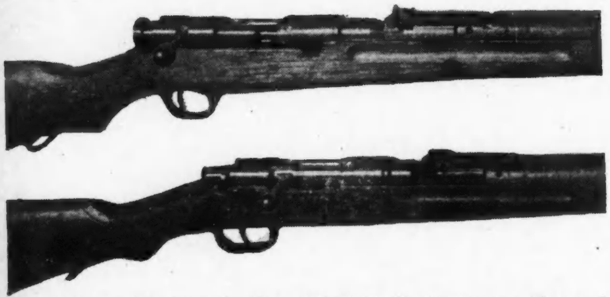
Those familiar with Japanese history will remember that after the great changes of 1868, when Japan developed rapidly from a medieval to a modern country, officers from Europe and America took service with the Imperial Government and enabled the Japanese to build up an Army and Navy equipped and trained in the Western tradition. It is evident that Italian, as well as German, officers had considerable influence on the design of the Arisaka rifle which the Japanese finally adopted. Already in 1891 the Italian Government had placed in service the Mannlicher-Carcano rifle, chambered for a 6.5 mm. cartridge which fired its 162 grain, round-nosed bullet at about 2,300 feet per second. The light recoil of this weapon appealed greatly to the Japanese who, because of their small stature, found the recoil of weapons of larger caliber too severe. How successful the Italians were in introducing parts of the design of their rifle and cartridge into the Japanese service may be seen by comparing pictures of the early model Arisaka and the Mannlicher-Carcano. While the action, magazine, and pistol grip of the Arisaka are derived from the Mauser, the barrel, the fittings, the shape of the stock, the cleaning rod, and the design of the bayonet are similar to those of the Italian rifle. Furthermore, the cartridge for the Arisaka bears the same relationship to the Mannlicher-Carcano cartridge that the U. S. .30-'06 bears to the older, lesser-known .30-'03.

If a .30 caliber Krag, a Model '03, and an '06 cartridge are compared with the three cartridges illustrated, it will be seen immediately that the rimmed Krag with its heavy, 220 grain, long, round-nosed bullet driven at 2,000 feet per second, represents the same stage of development as the original Mannlicher with its heavy 159 grain, long, round-nosed bullet driven at 2,300 feet per second. Since the two locking lugs of the Mannlicher were able to withstand a slightly higher breech pressure than the single lug of Captain Krag's rifle, the Mannlicher bullet of comparable weight was loaded to 300 feet per second higher muzzle velocity than the Krag bullet. The rimmed cartridge cases of both the Mannlicher and Krag are typical, well-designed cases of the period before the invention of the Mauser vertical-box magazine, which by holding its five rounds

**THE AUTHOR:** *Lt. Comdr. Short has an enviable background of information on foreign military arms against which to evaluate such items as the unusual "Mauser-Arisaka-Carcano" he describes here. During the war, Short served as a marksmanship instructor for the Navy, on the staff of NRA ex-President Thurman Randle.*

in a staggered column, made it unnecessary for the magazine to protrude beneath the stock.

Should the U. S. .30-'03 cartridge be examined, it will be seen that it represents the same stage of development as the Mannlicher-Carcano, which is in reality a rimless version of the original 6.5 Mannlicher. The rimless case simplified the mechanical feeding of the cartridges from either the Mauser or Mannlicher magazine. However, the ballistics of the cartridge remained the same, and the 162 grain, round-nosed Italian bullet driven with a muzzle velocity of 2,300 feet per second is exactly comparable to the 220 grain, long, round-nosed bullet of the 1903 cartridge, which was originally driven at 2,200 feet per second.



**Above is the standard Arisaka "Year 38" (1907) rifle, in 6.5 mm. caliber, and below, the unusual Carcano, apparently submitted to Japanese as a sample**

Even before the introduction of small-bore, high-velocity cartridges, ballisticians had realized the desirability of using sharply pointed projectiles, since obviously the air would offer far less resistance to their forward motion. The French were the first to place a pointed small-bore bullet in general service when they issued the celebrated "*balle D*" in 1898. The manner in which this bullet maintained velocity throughout its flight, and the resulting flatness of trajectory, caused the Germans to follow suit by changing the projectile for their 7.9 mm. Mauser from a 227 grain, round-nosed bullet at 2,100 feet per second to a 154 grain "Spitzer" bullet at 2,800 feet. Within a few years almost all military small-arms cartridges had been improved by the substitution of lighter, pointed bullets driven at higher muzzle velocities. In the United States, the .30 caliber cartridge of 1906, with its 150 grain bullet at 2,700 feet per second, replaced the Model of 1903.

The Arisaka cartridge of 1905 presented this same evolution in cartridges of 6.5 mm. caliber. The weight of the bullet was reduced from the 160 grains of the original Mannlicher design to 139 grains. A sharp point replaced the round nose, and the muzzle velocity was increased from 2,300 to 2,500 feet per second.

There exists rather generally an erroneous belief that the Italian Mannlicher-Carcano has a Mannlicher action. The only part of the Italian rifle based on the Austrian design is the magazine, which copies the Mannlicher in its entirety. The action, however, is an early Mauser modified by M. Carcano at Turin. The bolt handle is joined to the body of the bolt at about its center and, therefore, lies ahead of the bridge of the receiver when the breech is closed. This position of the handle was common to most early bolt-action rifles. However, it made the operation of the bolt mechanism very awkward and necessitated the rifleman removing the piece from his shoulder for each shot. In the design of the Krag, the Lee-Enfield, and the late Mauser, this fault was remedied by placing the operating handle at the rear of the bolt so that it sloped down alongside the stock. With the handle in this position, the rifleman was able to operate the breech mechanism very rapidly while in any of the firing positions and to continue firing until the magazine was empty, without removing the rifle butt from the shoulder. It is because the bolt handle of the Carcano is in the same position as on the Mannlicher that many people mistakenly assume them to be the same action. Since the Lee-Enfield and Krag were both widely distributed by 1890, it is strange that Carcano continued this incorrect placement of the bolt handle as late as 1891.

Carcano did incorporate into his action, however, one absolutely unique feature which is of considerable interest. Until the introduction of early single-shot, bolt-action rifles, all small arms were fired by means of a hammer. In a few cases the hammer was enclosed, but the great majority of weapons had an exposed hammer which could be lowered to "half cock." This lowering of the hammer to the half-cock notch had a dual purpose. First, the obvious safety precaution of not carrying a weapon loaded and cocked, and secondly, the releasing of the tension from the mainspring. In the case of bolt-action rifles the same was true since they might be fired after simply unlocking the safety catch. However, during the entire time they were loaded and locked the mainspring was under compression. Evidently, Carcano considered this a serious fault, and it must be admitted that in frontier country such as parts of Africa or in actual front-line warfare, there are times when the rifleman keeps his weapon fully loaded and at hand for weeks on end. In a country of continual alarms and border warfare where rifles were habitually kept loaded, locked, and at hand, such continuous compression of the mainspring might well cause "metal fatigue," and so weaken the spring as to result in a misfire at a critical moment. The coiled mainspring might even break, and under such circumstances this would have been a disaster indeed.

Carcano apparently was the only designer of small arms who

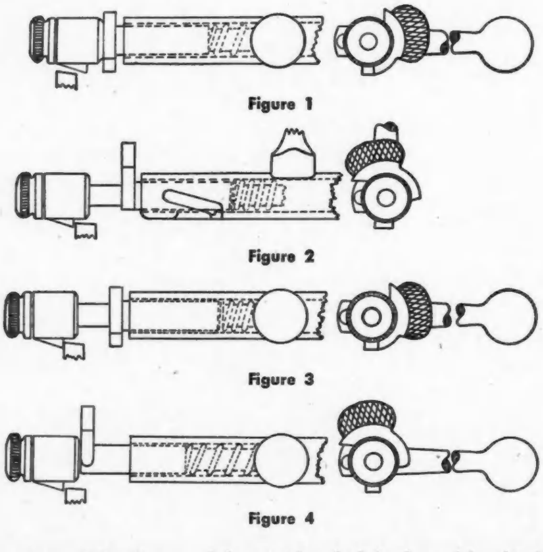


**Figure 1**

**Figure 2**

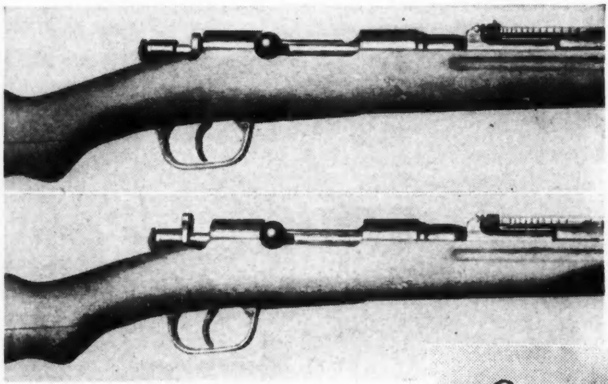
**Figure 3**

**Figure 4**

**Operation of the Carcano bolt. As described in the article, this is the only rifle which can be left loaded and locked without damage to spring**

thought it necessary to eliminate this fault common to most other bolt actions. Although the safety device on his rifle is somewhat slow in operation, he, nevertheless, succeeded in designing an action such that when the piece is loaded and cocked and the breech closed, the act of locking the safety device automatically releases the compression of the mainspring. Unlocking the action automatically compresses the mainspring again. Thus, Carcano's action is the only bolt mechanism which may be left loaded and locked indefinitely.

The manner in which this is accomplished is best understood from the illustrations. In Figure 1 the action is shown with breech closed, firing pin forward. In Figure 2 the bolt handle has been raised, cocking the action. The piece is cocked on the opening stroke of the bolt in the conventional manner, although the cocking cams are on the left side instead of underneath the bolt as in the Mauser. In Figure 3 the bolt has been drawn back, then thrust forward and turned down. The rifle is now loaded and ready to be fired. Figure 4 shows clearly how Carcano's safety operates. The thumbpiece of the safety has been pushed over to the left, thus disengaging the stud on the forward end of the sleeve from its notch, and the entire sleeve slides aft in the bolt body to the position shown. The stud actually moves in the diagonal slot shown in Figure 2 The piece is now loaded, locked, and the compression of the mainspring released. It may be carried in this condition indefinitely.



**Above: The Jap Carcano cocked and ready to be fired. Below: Cocked and locked, with the tension released from the mainspring**

The action is locked shut. Figure 3 shows the method of unlocking the safety. The right hand pushes the sleeve forward and rotates it clockwise. The mainspring is now compressed, the action unlocked and the piece is ready to be fired.

There are certain other features of design which make this rifle of unusual interest. All actions based on the Mauser or Krag are noted for their sure, strong extraction. This powerful extraction is obtained by causing that part of the bolt handle nearest the body of the bolt to ride along part of the receiver as the handle is turned up in opening the breech. The bridge of the receiver against which the bolt handle bears is designed in the form of a cam surface, so that, as the bolt handle is turned up, the entire bolt is forced backwards about one-sixteenth of an inch. Thus, a very powerful pull is exerted on the extractor hook.

In the design of the Carcano and likewise the Mannlicher, the bolt handle is placed ahead of the bridge of the receiver. Consequently, there is nothing for the handle to bear against to obtain this extracting force. Nevertheless, the same powerful extraction is obtained in what is mechanically the same manner. The forward corner of one of the locking lugs is beveled to form a cam surface, and the forward wall of the lug recess is machined to form the opposing cam surface. These are so arranged that as the lugs are rotated out of their recesses the two cams come together, and the entire bolt is forced back, exerting a powerful extracting force to start the cartridge from the chamber. The principle is exactly the same as that employed in the Mauser. The cam surfaces have simply been transferred from the rear to the forward end of the bolt. The bolt stop is also curious but eminently practical. When the bolt is pulled to the rear in reloading from the magazine, its motion is stopped by a movable metal piece which fits inside the bridge of the receiver on the right side and slides vertically in a path machined for it. This metal piece blocks the path of the right locking lug and thus prevents the bolt from being drawn clear of the receiver. This bolt stop, however, is connected to the trigger mechanism in such a manner that whenever the trigger is drawn back the bolt stop is automatically drawn down, clearing the path of the locking lug. Thus, when it is desired to disassemble the piece, it is only necessary to pull back on the trigger and withdraw the bolt from the receiver.

It seems evident that the Japanese adopted the dimensions of the stock, all the fittings, and the cartridge from the Italian rifle. Probably this special rifle was sent from Europe to Japan as a sample. In the example described, the stock was sanded down and refinished, and a beautiful weapon with fine lines and excellent balance was the result. In order to find out just what the piece would do, the position of the lower band was altered, and the band moved back to the position of the lower band on the Model 1903. Thus, the piece can be fired with the full loop sling adjustment.

Our sample "Carcano-Arisaka" was taken to the range and fired over a 200-yard course on the "A" target. The only ammunition available was eight rounds of "battlefield pickups." While no unusual accuracy was obtained with this old ammunition, enough was learned to presume that with good fresh ammunition, an aperture sight on the receiver and a plain post front, this weapon should be able consistently to drive 139 grain bullets at 2,500 feet muzzle velocity into 2.5-inch groups at 100 yards. How closely this resembles the .257 Roberts cartridge with its 117 grain bullet at 2,660 feet per second can readily be seen. If it were possible to obtain proper ammunition, it would be interesting to make some accuracy tests with this weapon, and then start wondering why the Japanese adopted the Ariska design instead.

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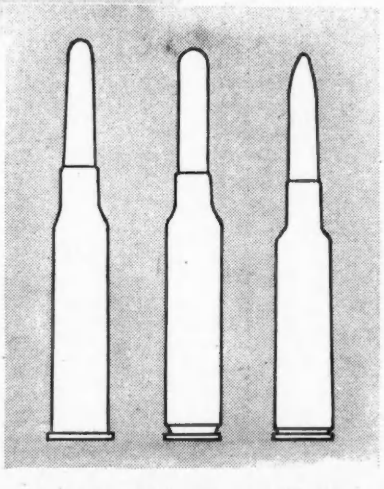


**Above, left to right: 6.5 mm. Mannlicher, 6.5 mm. Mannlicher-Carcano and 6.5 mm. Japanese Arisaka. These are best known among modern 6.5 mm. military cartridges**

# OLDE TIME SCHUT

By SHERWIN MURPHY

WHAT MAY BE THE OLDEST regular rifle competition in the United States is the annual "King Schut" fired in June at Hollandtown, Wisconsin. For ninety-eight consecutive years —through four major wars—residents of this small farming community have observed a traditional Dutch custom that was brought to America by their forefathers who emigrated to Brown County in 1848.

Unique as it is in historical antecedents, this Hollandtown "schut" is different in other ways. There is only one target for all competitors, shot holes are not pasted, no scores are recorded, protests and alibis are unknown, firing from a rest is permitted, and *the winner, or "king" is not necessarily the best marksman.*

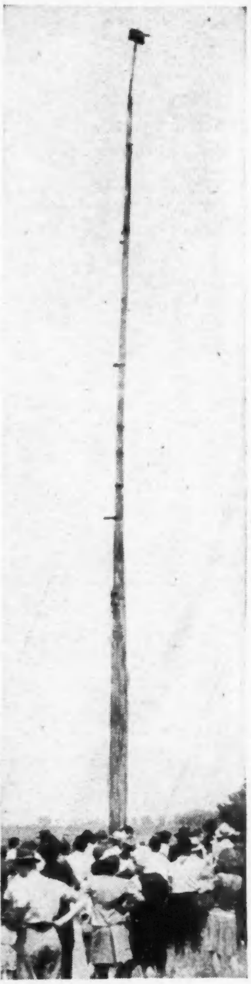
This year, more than a thousand came to witness the firing and enjoy the program of feasting and dancing which followed. Entry to the "Schut" is limited to members of the St. Francis Society and a few invited guests. Centuries ago this organization was founded as a mutual aid, or early form of insurance group, around which many social activities centered.

The target, a facsimile bird which measures approximately thirty inches across the wings, is attached to the top of a seventy-five foot pole. The marksman who blasts away the last fragment of the "bird" is hailed as "King of the Schut" and holds that title until the firing of the next "Schut."

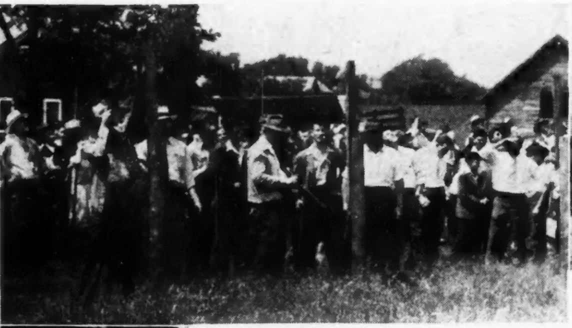
Traditionally, the pastor fired the first shot. Then firing began in rotation as names were called. One after another, the marksmen stepped to their assigned stations and fired a single shot. Occasionally, a marksman shot offhand but, because of the high angle of the target, most found it more convenient to rest their rifle stock against the shooting post.

This year's was a "$30 bird" which meant that the winner received that much cash. Additional prizes of $2.50 each were awarded to those who shot away a wing or the tail.

The rifles used included practically every type of hunting arm that might be found in a farming community—from modern bolt action pieces to some that might qualify as museum items. Krags, in a variety of modifications, seemed to be favored, and several .45-70 Springfields added their distinctive roar to the proceedings. Only .22's were conspicuously absent. The idea is to sling as much lead as possible!



The target "bird" is mounted on a 75 foot shooting mast



Above: Traditionally, the local pastor starts the annual Schut by firing the first shot

Right: This marksman, firing a .45-70, demonstrates the high angle necessary to hit "bird"

Center of page: Members fire from shooting posts arranged in semi-circle around "bird"

Under the impact of the flying lead (which included many soft points), the "bird" slewed, twisted, jumped, and rocked in its mountings. This was something spectators could see and understand. Every shot was followed with keen interest. Now and then a shout went up as a wing, head, tail, or other sizeable piece was detached. After 350 shots the bird still clung tenaciously to its lofty perch atop the target mast but, very obviously, was beginning to disintegrate. Excitement mounted. Every eye was riveted on the target as shot followed shot. The "crowning" of a new King could not take much longer.

As Gilbert Broeren fired the 360th shot, a roar went up from the crowd. The badly battered bird, what was left of it, crashed to the ground . . . and a new "King of the Schut" reigned in Hollandtown.

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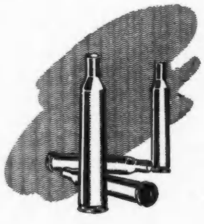
# *Introduction to* HANDLOADING

By AL BARR

HANDLOADING is as old, actually, as the gun itself. The first person who ever muzzle-loaded a firearm was handloading, although it was a long way from what we consider handloading today. Since this is an introduction to the subject, we had better decide at the start just what modern handloading is. Assembling a handload means taking a fired cartridge case, removing the old primer, inserting a new one, pouring a powder charge into the case, and seating a bullet.

The development of the center-fire brass cartridge case really made reloading practical. Today, even with our ultra high-velocity and high-pressure cartridges, reloading is entirely worth considering—not only from the standpoint of economy but for the production of special-purpose loads not available from any of our ammunition makers. With few exceptions, reloading is the answer for the shooter who wants to stretch his cartridge budget as far as it will go, or whose needs in the way of cartridges go beyond the standard loadings he can buy over a counter. Exceptions to such a general rule would be shooters whose minimum outlay of ammunition would not justify the purchase of a reloading tool, and those to whom economy is no problem and factory loads are satisfactory.

That matter of economy is something to consider. To take the typical case of a shooter who might use a maximum of 1,000 rounds per year, reloading can cut ammunition costs, roughly, in half. Jacketed bullets will cost about three cents apiece, primers one-half cent, and powder less than that. At this rate, the cost of reloading would total not more than half that of the factory ammunition. The only requirement is that enough shooting must be planned to justify the initial outlay for a good reloading tool.



Even more important for the rabid gun bug is that matter of getting ammunition which satisfies him. The possibilities are unlimited and there are combinations for the home reloader to meet every need. Not the least of these is the use of inexpensive lead bullet reloads which will prolong the life of that expensive barrel by many thousands of rounds. It is surprising how much of one's shooting can be done with these inexpensive lead bullet loadings. A high-velocity rifle in the .30-'06 class will lose some of its gilt-edge accuracy after firing from 3,000 to 5,000 rounds using full-power loads with jacketed bullets. Many times that number of lead alloy bullets can be put through a fine barrel without causing appreciable bore wear.

### Books on Reloading

Before selecting any reloading equipment, a shooter not familiar with reloading procedures should get one or two good books on the subject. The familiar Lyman and Belding and Mull Handbooks are a must for anyone starting out in the reloading game. In "Handloader's Manual" by Naramore, the beginner will find a very complete discussion of components and methods, but not a single recommended load. For plenty of suggested loads for all of the popular rifle and pistol calibers, plus a lot of general information on reloading, there is Phil Sharpe's "Complete Guide to Handloading." A new edition is expected before long, which should contain loads for all of the new powders.

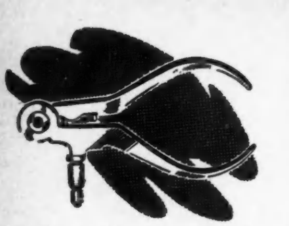
### Primers

One of the most misunderstood problems of the handloader is the confusion between chlorate, mercuric, and nonmercuric primers. Obviously, the first two are not as desirable as the modern noncorrosive type, but in these days of primer shortage, the reloader is apt to wonder if he cannot successfully use these "undesirables." Actually, the only harmful effect caused by the old potassium chlorate primer is the corrosive residue left after firing. However, a thorough cleaning with water is all that is necessary to prevent this harmful after effect.

That mercuric primer is another story. Fulminate of mercury attacks brass and using these primers demands a very strong cartridge case to hold up safely for repeated loading with the pressures developed by present-day, high-velocity loads. Actually, though, the problem is not as great with modern smokeless powders as it was with the old-timers' black-powder handloads. Because of excessive residue left after firing black-powder, cases had to be cleaned almost every time they were used, and the mercury in the old primers attacks those thin, bright cases faster than it will a fouled one. With our present-day smokeless powder and a minimum of powder residue, we no longer have to clean cases, and the mercuric effect on the brass is not too harmful.

For general reloading, there are two common primer sizes. These are the small rifle and pistol primers of .175 inch diameter and the large .210 size. There are other sizes, but they are not too important for the beginning handloader. Among these may be mentioned the Frankfort Arsenal pistol primer, measuring approximately .206 inch and used only in Frankfort .45 caliber pistol cartridges, and the special .225 inch Winchester primer. This Winchester primer was used for a while in special match loads, but cases to accept them are scarce.

### STRICTLY FOR BEGINNERS . . . THE FIRST OF TWO INFORMATIVE ARTICLES ON THE HOWS AND WHYS OF MAKING YOUR OWN "HOME-BREW" AMMUNITION



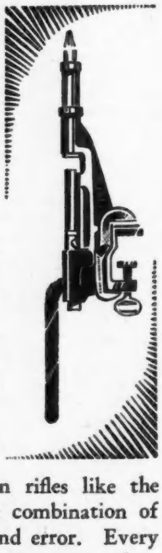
The main difference between rifle and pistol primers of any given size is a possible difference in the "strength" or quantity of the priming compound and, more important, in the thickness of the nickel-plated brass primer cup. Rifles usually have heavier working parts, and a much stronger firing pin spring than revolvers and a heavier brass cup is used to prevent punctured primers.

One rather ingenious suggestion for a primer substitute has come to light recently and is quite practical in view of the shortage of large rifle primers. The anvil is removed from a fired rifle primer and the firing pin indentation is removed with a small flat-end punch. When this is done, a small rifle or pistol primer can be inserted inside the large cup and you have a practical and safe substitute for the hard-to-get rifle size.

### The Cartridge Case

Our present-day brass cartridge cases require very little attention. No cleaning is required except for the primer pocket and, in some cases, the inside of the case neck when using lead alloy bullets. A close-fitting screw driver or one of those patented primer pocket cleaners may be used to remove any residue from primer pockets, which might prevent the new primer from seating properly. Improperly seated primers, incidentally, will have an unpleasant effect on accuracy. Other than this minimum of cleaning, your cartridge cases need practically no attention and will last in a normal chamber for many reloadings.

### Bullets



Jacketed bullets can be purchased in an almost endless variety of shapes and calibers and, when using lead alloy bullets, they may be sized to different diameters for a given caliber. Lead bullets, as a rule, should be sized to approximately .003 inch above the groove diameter of the rifle they are intended for. Sometimes, though, sizing them to near-groove diameter will give better accuracy. This depends on the velocity and, as a general rule, the smaller diameter bullets will perform better at the higher velocities. Jacketed bullets, on the other hand, should be no larger than groove diameter and can be a little below that when velocities get into the 3,000-foot-per-second bracket. Oversized bullets in high-velocity rifles can be dangerous and are almost certain to give inferior results. Accuracy may fall off and pressures will go up, even with normal full-power rounds. Sometimes, noticeably undersized bullets will give surprising results with near maximum loads, especially when using heavy bullets in rifles like the .220 Swift and .22-250. Finding that right combination of bullet and groove diameter depends on trial and error. Every rifle is an individual reloading proposition in one way or another. General handloading suggestions are practical for any cartridge, but real experimenting is necessary to get the finest accuracy.

### Bullet Lubricants

If you are planning to use inexpensive lead alloy bullets which you can cast yourself, a suitable lubricant is an important factor, and will cut down your chances of a leaded bore. There are many good lubricants on the market, or a suitable lubrication can be made at home of equal parts of beeswax, paraffin, and a thick oil or vaseline. A small amount of micro-fine graphite may be added with advantage.

### Bullet Casting

As is true of almost everything else in the reloading game, there is an almost endless variety of alloys which you can use for casting bullets. One of the best of these is two parts tin, two parts antimony and ninety-six parts lead. This is a fairly soft mixture, but one that gives very fine accuracy. Another good mixture is one part tin to sixteen parts pure lead. The melting point of both of these alloys is relatively high and lead fouling is kept to a minimum, especially when using reasonably heavy loads. Other good alloys are 94-3-3 and 90-5-5. These are recommended for high-velocity lead bullet loads with gas check. In both of these formulas, the first figures are for lead and the next two for tin and antimony.

### Powder

The point at which the new reloader is most apt to be confused is in the selection of a powder for his particular brand of shooting. The thing to remember is that there is a powder designed for every purpose. When a low-velocity load is required, a relatively fast-burning powder is needed. This is just the ticket for lead bullet loads. When soft-point or open-point, jacketed bullets are used, we want higher velocities and that means a slow-burning powder in order to get uniform ignition. Among the du Pont rifle powders, we can choose from Nos. 4759, 4227, 4198, 3031, 4320, 4064, and 4350. Of these seven powders, 4759 and 4227 are the faster burning, and they go down successively to the slow-burning 4350. Hercules has a similar series, from fast to slow: Unique, 2400, Sharpshooter, Lightning and High Vel No. 2. The slower-burning powders usually will not give uniform results when very light charges are used for the lowest-velocity loads, and particularly with lead alloy bullets, hence the reloader should always use a relatively fast-burning powder. A suggestion for these low-velocity loads would be the fairly new du Pont Sporting Rifle Powder 4759, which replaced No. 80 and is quite flexible. It does well for midrange loads in all calibers and some good loads have been developed with this powder even in some of the large-capacity revolver cases. As a matter of fact, maximum loads are possible with 4759 in the largest revolver cases such as the .45 Colt. While 4759 is one of the best powders for these midrange and reduced loads, it is by no means the only one. The reloading handbooks include information on charges and brands of powder for use with lead alloy bullets in all popular calibers.

The reloader has a wide variety of powders from which to choose when assembling high-velocity loads with jacketed bullets. At this point, it should be mentioned that most loading tables will indicate a minimum and maximum charge. What this means is that with the indicated combination of cartridge and bullet, the powder is efficient only within that range. Lighter charges than those indicated as "minimum" may not burn uniformly and charges heavier than "maximum" will cause dangerously excessive pressures. Even the experienced reloader soon learns to play safe and be guided by these handbook minimum and maximum loads. Most of these suggested loads were furnished by the companies manufacturing powders and were based on tests made in their laboratories. Unfortunately, some years ago our powder companies discontinued furnishing this information. Since that time, at least two new brands of rifle powder have appeared on the market. One of these is the aforementioned du Pont 4759. Fortunately, it is quite safe to use loads suggested for No. 80 as a guide, as pressures with either powder are relatively low when using reduced loads. With the other new powder, du Pont No. 4350, the reloader is not so fortunate in having an older brand to go by. This means getting loads only from the most reliable sources, or borrowing reliable data and working up to a safe load from an estimated *minimum* charge. That safety factor in the reloading game cannot be overemphasized. Reloaders, tyro or experienced, should stick to regular canister lots of powder and be guided by the best available loading data they can get. It is always unwise to attempt to work up loads for an unknown powder. Similarly, loads developed with one lot of a powder may be entirely different from identical loads with another lot of the same powder. Both pressure and velocity are apt to differ from one lot to another. For this reason, the powder sold to reloaders in small canisters is recommended, since it is selected by the manufacturer from a lot which gives a near normal pressure and velocity ratio with standard, recommended charges. Unlike the average reloader, ammunition and powder manufacturers have adequate and expensive equipment for checking the exact amount of powder used for the highest possible velocity with safe pressure. So it pays to stay on the safe side!

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# The Baltic Flintlock

*(Continued from page 25)*

actuated by the rotating tumbler, pokes its nose through the lockplate at the moment of firing and prevents the dog from accidentally catching the hammer on its downward trip. Figures 12b and c illustrate the action of this wedge.

Figure 13 (Renwick Collection) shows us at last a true flintlock. The hammer is of typical flintlock form, attached by an external screw to a typical arbor which carries on the other side of the lockplate an equally typical unbridled tumbler with single sear and two notches—one a plain right-angled notch for the full-cocked position of the hammer, the other much deeper for carrying the hammer in half-cocked position. It is this latter notch that is the outstanding innovation of the flintlock. This tiny groove makes all the difference between the true flintlock and the numerous snaphaunces and transition forms which had preceded it, for now no longer is it necessary to have the frizzen rotate upon the pan cover, to have it swivel backward, or to have it a separate piece, for with a half-cock position of the hammer possible, there is no need for having the frizzen back while the pan cover is forward, and all the forms we have seen so far—true snaphaunce and transition forms—were designed with this one great purpose. Now the hammer at half-cock is perfectly safe. Any amount of pulling upon the trigger will not be able to disengage the nose of the sear from the deep notch into which it is thrust (Figure 13b). At the same time the flint does not quite touch the frizzen, so that the pan can remain entirely closed and the priming be ready for instant use. But one motion is necessary to change the lock from its inactive to its active condition; a single motion of the hand, pulling back the hammer to the full-cock position, leaves the lock entirely ready for instantaneous action. When some bright gunsmith first had the happy idea of filing in the tumbler a second notch, a notch so deep and so far overhung that the sear could not possibly be pulled out of engagement with it by the trigger, then at once all the previous paraphernalia—separate frizzen, links, pivots, and dogs—became utterly obsolete and unnecessary. Then and then only was the flintlock born. Yet even then anomalies appeared here and there.

Figure 14 illustrates another doglock in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The ornamentation and form of the lock show a date well along in the eighteenth century. The tumbler (Figures 14a and b) has a highly developed half-cock notch, yet on the outside there is also an enormous dog. It is, of course, wholly unnecessary, and, lacking the ingenious wedging device of Figure 13, was doubtless of considerable annoyance to the user. Why is it there? The only answer is apparently conservatism. The dog used to serve a very necessary purpose and is here retained, like toe-nails, as a typical vestigeal organ.

So also we find the more strictly Baltic types of locks in later times combining their peculiar safety devices with the late tumblers having both full- and half-cock notches. Here again the safety devices are quite useless and are maintained only out of conservatism, except in such cases as Figure 15 (Renwick Collection)—a revolving gun of the end of the seventeenth century. Here each of the eight chambers in the cylinder has its own separate pan and sliding pan cover, while the single frizzen develops an extended lip as in the Baltic transition pieces, which covers the pan of the particular cylinder in the firing position—after, of course, the sliding cover of that chamber has been pushed back by hand.

It is not, of course, claimed that the series of locks shown above gives proof of the origin of the European flintlock. It is entirely possible that many of the Baltic transition forms developed after the true flintlock was in use in more Southern countries. The doglock is introduced merely as corroborative of the importance of the half-cock, not as having any immediate kinship with the Baltic locks, for it seems highly probable that the doglock originated in a Southern or Eastern country. It is merely hoped to present a picture of the evolution of the flintlock in one particular locality and to show from this how so little a thing as a notch, requiring but one flash of inspiration and a few moments of filing, made the tremendous advance which abolished the wheellock and its successor, the snaphaunce, and gave to the world in the true flintlock a simple and effective mechanism which well served men of arms for two hundred years.

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## "One Man's Meat . . ."

(Continued from page 12)

shadow in the trees, was shot too far back, and managed to make his way to a little lake 400 yards away, where another shot through the neck finished him. A 62¼-inch moose was killed with one shot. A big gray wolf, running, was shot through the shoulder, breaking it. Another shot finished him. A coyote came out on a cliff above me about 150 yards away. I missed him the first time. The second shot caught him under the chin, driving a part of his spine through the back of his neck. I also got two goats, running up the side of a cliff. My shooting was below par on this day, and both were shot too far back. We got one. Johnnie thought he could get the other goat, but I thought the risk was too great and told him not to. This is the only wounded animal that ever got away from me while I was shooting this gun.

Now for Dall sheep. We found one band of them in a saucerlike flat, but could not get near enough to them for certain shooting. We watched them for four hours, until they finally fed around to a rim of the saucer, 175 yards away. There was one ram with a 36½-inch curl, and better than a fifteen-inch base—the latter measurement being almost a record. The bullet struck him in the shoulder. In order not to take chances, I shot him again. The second shot went through his head, killing him instantly. Another sheep was running up the side of the mountain and I did not have the range right at first. The third shot broke his hind leg and put him down. Johnnie estimated the distance as between 700 and 800 yards. I am willing to cut that distance 200 yards, but it was still a shot at extreme range. All of these sheep were killed with the 180 grain Barnes bullet.

A few observations and I am finished. A man can be a hunter and still be humane. His comfort is *not* the paramount question. The animal is entitled to consideration.

The .300 Magnum is not the gun for a novice. To handle a gun of this type for shots at more than 200 yards, the hunter should have shot the gun on the range enough to know *exactly* what it will do. He must know what the point of impact is at the selected range, and should be able to call his shots. No hunter is good enough to handle this gun at long ranges without a telescope sight. If these rules are followed, the gun will not let the user down, and its accuracy is better than most men can utilize. If properly stocked and equipped with a recoil pad, the recoil will not bother any fair-sized man.

I have presented my case. The verdict is up to jury. ◆ ◆ ◆

**"We found one band of sheep in a saucerlike flat, but could not get near enough for certain shooting. They finally fed around to the rim of the saucer, 175 yards away."**

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## TR's Springfield

(Continued from page 14)

with the rifles he wanted fixed up in the same way.

The Neary arrangement provided small electric lamps of one-tenth candle power, which were seated in a receptacle just to the rear of both front and rear sights. The two lamps were in parallel wiring, screwed into sockets which were protected by a cover secured with a dovetail and a single screw. To replace a lamp it was necessary only to remove the screw with a small screw driver from the tool box, lift off the cover, unscrew the unserviceable lamp with a special tool, which was provided, and screw in a new lamp.

The lamps were three volt, one-tenth candle power, such as were used in certain surgical instruments. Eight spare lamps were furnished for the two rifles. The batteries, three small dry cells in series, were standard "Ever-Ready" cells measuring an inch in diameter by one and seven-eighths inches long, located in the stock of the rifle. In order to replace a battery, it was necessary to remove the butt plate and lift the hinge contact. The rest was simple.

A push button was provided to switch the lamps on when needed. The wiring of the Winchester was practically the same as for the Springfield except that contacts were placed between stock and receiver and between hand guard and receiver, in order that the rifle could be taken down without interfering with the wiring.

In order to expedite Mr. Roosevelt's job, the Chief of Ordnance kept in constant touch from March 8, 1909, when he sent detailed instructions to the Springfield Armory, until he was advised that the weapons had been sent by special messenger to the Winchester Company, which was to deliver them to Mr. Roosevelt.

In his letter to the Armory on the subject, General Crozier revealed that the President's '03 Springfield rifle had already been altered to use 1906 ammunition and ordered 200 rounds to be sent forward with the rifle. Also, it was noted that a Maxim Silencer was accompanying the rifles. On March 18, 1909, by 2nd Indorsement, Colonel Blunt, Commanding Officer at Springfield, made his report that the work was done and being sent for as requested.

And that is the story of how "Teddy" came to get a Springfield Model 1903 made to his own specifications—probably the original of the now famous "Springfield sporter." ◆ ◆ ◆

# Plans for OLYMPICS - - 1948

On Monday morning, September 23, about two hundred sportsmen met in the New York Athletic Club in New York City to discuss ways and means for organizing, training, financing, and transporting United States teams to the next Olympic Games, which will be held in London in 1948. The meeting was presided over by Avery Brundage, of Chicago, President of the United States Olympic Association. Those present represented track and field, swimming, wrestling, rowing, boxing, gymnastics and rifle and pistol shooting.

The National Rifle Association was represented at the meeting by General M. A. Reckord, Mr. Karl T. Frederick, and General Julian S. Hatcher. The U. S. Revolver Association was represented by Mr. Frederick, Colonel Roy D. Jones, and General Reckord.

Full discussion was held on the organization of Olympic Games Committees and the financing of the Olympic Teams.

The Rifle Committee members are:

General M. A. Reckord, Chairman
Mr. C. B. Lister, Secretary
General M. A. Edson
General Julian S. Hatcher
Colonel Francis W. Parker, Jr.
Mr. Frank T. Parsons
Mr. Karl T. Frederick

The Pistol Committee include:

Mr. Karl T. Frederick, Chairman
Colonel Roy D. Jones, Secretary
Mr. Raymond C. Bracken
Doctor I. R. Calkins
General M. A. Reckord
Mr. P. A. Shephard
General S. R. Hinds

The interlocking membership of these two committees should be of interest to shooters, and promises real co-operation in selecting the best available rifle and pistol shooters to represent the United States at London. The National Rifle Association, through General Reckord, offered assistance to the U. S. Revolver Association in the matter of conducting tryouts, which was accepted on the part of the USRA by Col. Jones.

Of primary interest to both the rifle and pistol shooters is the plan for the conduct of tryouts for membership on these Olympic Teams. The plan proposed is that the U. S. Revolver Association and the National Rifle Association will conduct their regular tournaments and regional matches throughout the nation for the next two years. The records of all participants will be assembled at National Rifle Association headquarters in Washington, where the Olympic Rifle Committee and the Olympic Pistol Committee will eventually meet to select members for the two Olympic tryout squads. These squads will be assembled and, under the direction of their respective Olympic Committees, will conduct final tryouts. Based upon the performance of the individuals at these finals, the actual team squads will be selected by the committees.

The matter of financing the teams was given consideration, and many suggestions were made. It is required that all sports, including rifle and pistol shooting, raise the funds with which to defray the expenses of their respective teams. No definite decision was reached, but further thought will be given, and rifle and pistol shooters will be advised in The Rifleman.

The Olympic amateur rule was also discussed. Its exact application to shooters is not clear and an effort is now being made to get a clear-cut decision which will tell riflemen and pistoleers whether or not they may compete for money prizes amounting to less than the expenses incurred in attending a shoot. Until a final decision is obtained, it will be wise for competitors who hope to make an Olympic team to refrain from shooting for money prizes.

Neither the rifle nor pistol programs at the last several Olympics have been satisfactory to American or British Empire shooters. The matter of a more satisfactory program was taken up at the New York meeting and an effort is being made to secure a broader program for 1948. With the famous Bisley ranges available to the British Organizing Committee, only a short distance from London, it is hoped that service rifle and pistol matches, slow-, timed- and rapid-fire revolver matches, and small-bore matches at 50 and 100 meters may be added to the slow-fire 50 meter pistol and small-bore rifle events which have been the sum total of shooting in recent Olympics.

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## This Ammo Shortage

*(Continued from page 9)*

That, in brief, is the ammunition situation. What about primers? The arms companies are making, and selling, primers to the police departments. How about the rest of us?

They are trying now to balance production schedules and distribution so that both primers and brass cases will soon be available. When they do appear on the market, reloaders can help by buying what they actually need at the time, and by refraining from "stocking up." Leave as much as you can.

From the standpoint of DCM sales, too, the picture has been materially brightened by conferences between the NRA and the War Department officials. Our people have found a sincere desire on the part of the Under Secretary of War and the Ordnance Department to cooperate. A completely new line of approach has been worked out, which leads to the belief that within a few weeks Frankford Arsenal will be back in the production of primers, and that .22 ammunition will be on order to take care of NRA club requirements.

The NRA has been trying "to get something rolling." Things are beginning to roll. The present situation, we are convinced, has had nothing to do with any organized effort to disarm Americans by drying up their ammunition supply, any more than the rest of the reconversion muddle has been due to any effort to deprive Americans of food, clothing or automobiles. Muddles aplenty there have been, but the situation is clearing a bit more rapidly in the ammunition and components field than in many others. Perhaps the NRA has been able to contribute to that improvement!—W. F. S.

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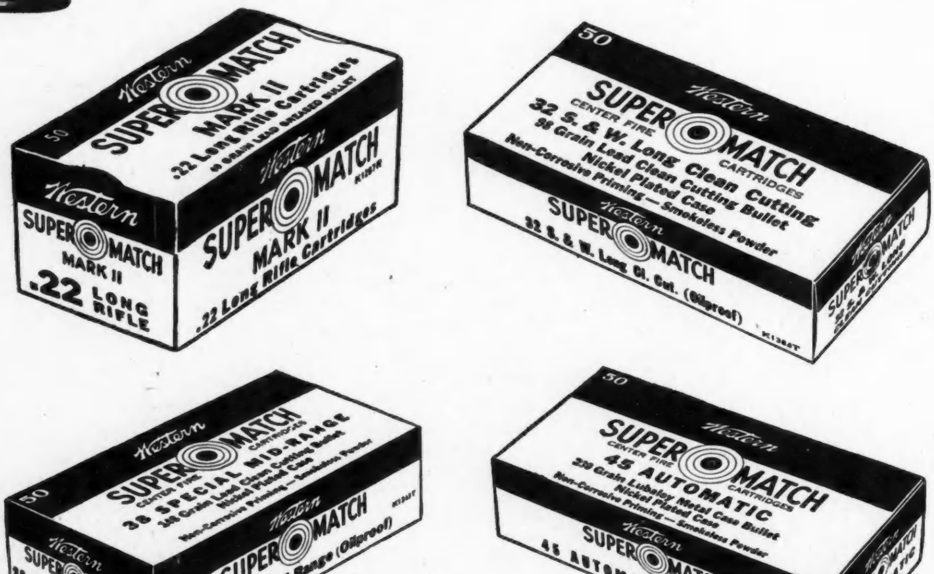
# Camp Perry proved again that...

Thanks, Camp Perry, for again substantiating Western's right to claim . . . WORLD CHAMPION AMMUNITION.

The choice among Small Bore Riflemen was—more than 2 to 1 for Western. And among Pistol shooters, the choice was also 2 to 1, or better, in all 4 pistol calibres.

Surely ammunition which can perform like this is the ammunition for YOU to use. Follow the champions—and win with Western.

And don't forget that Western 30 calibre ammunition is "tops" for Big Bore competition. Western Cartridge Company, East Alton, Illinois, Division of Olin Industries, Inc.


50
Western
SUPER MATCH
MARK II
.22 Long Rifle Cartridges
.22 LONG RIFLE
50
Western
SUPER MATCH
CENTER FIRE CARTRIDGES
32 S. & W. Long Clean Cutting
98 Grain Lead Clean Cutting Bullet
Nickel Plated Case
Non-Corrosive Priming — Smokeless Powder
32 S. & W. Long Cl. Cut. (Oilproof)
50
Western
SUPER MATCH
CENTER FIRE CARTRIDGES
38 SPECIAL MID-RANGE
148 Grain Lead Clean Cutting Bullet
Nickel Plated Case
Non-Corrosive Priming — Smokeless Powder
38 Special Mid-Range (Oilproof)
50
Western
SUPER MATCH
CENTER FIRE CARTRIDGES
45 AUTOMATIC
230 Grain Lubaloy Metal Case Bullet
Nickel Plated Case
Non-Corrosive Priming — Smokeless Powder
45 AUTOMATIC (Oilproof)

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# *Western* and WINCHESTER make

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## As You'd Expect the Champions Favored the

## WINCHESTER

TRADE MARK

## Model 52 Rifle by a Wide Margin

Undisputed King of the Small Bore Target Rifle Class, this great rifle is the product of Winchester's progressive engineering and fine craftsmanship. In no other way could it come into being. In no other way could it maintain year after year, for 29 years, its championship claim. Small wonder then the champions choose the 52. For whatever *you* personally want in a Small Bore Target Rifle, you'll find more of it in a Winchester Model 52.

## For Big Bore Target Matches the WINCHESTER Model 70 is a "must"

Although there were no Big Bore matches at Camp Perry this year, the Winchester Model 70 Target Rifle has long been—and still is—the choice of riflemen who prefer to demonstrate their skill in the long-range 30-calibre class. Winchester Repeating Arms Co., New Haven, Conn., Division of Olin Industries, Inc.

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PRECISION
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EZXS
22 LONG RIFLE MATCH CARTRIDGES
LESMOK
WINCHESTER
PRECISION
EZXS
SUPREME ACCURACY MATCH CARTRIDGES
WINCHESTER
EZXS

New, improved EZXS 22 Long Rifle Cartridges will be announced soon. When they are available, be sure to give their X-ring performance a trial.

**WINCHESTER**

TRADE MARK

SYMBOL OF SHOOTING SUPREMACY

DIVISION OF OLIN INDUSTRIES INC.

# The Old Coach

## SINGLE SHOT OR BOLT ACTION?

RECENTLY, DURING PRACTICE FIRING on a small-bore range, I overheard a young shooter suddenly explode above the intermittent, mumbling conversation: "It's the ugliest thing I ever saw! A hunk of junk. You couldn't give me one." The object of his disgust proved to be a single-shot, lever-action, small-bore rifle. It was no good because he didn't like its looks. The disgusted shooter had hardly signed off when a more thoughtful and experienced rifleman asked, "Well, just what's wrong with a single-shot rifle?"

The single-shot rifle is in reality an arm of the past. Whether it will be manufactured again is a question. Nonetheless, it is the rifle that Colonel Whelen, N. H. Roberts, Charles Askins, and your Old Coach cut their teeth on. And today, strangely enough, more and more top-notch small-bore shooters are going back to the "old-fashioned" single shots. Why?

Twenty-five years ago, practically all the small-bore rifles that made history at Sea Girt and Camp Perry were lever-action single shots. Records made by those old match rifles would be hard to beat today. After the first World War, however, target shooters gradually swung over to the bolt-action rifle. Today a lot of our younger shooters hardly realize that any other style of rifle was ever made for small-bore and .30 caliber target shooting. Perhaps that is because Americans must be in style. The vast majority of us are quite upset unless we can keep up with the Joneses.

Of course, the heyday of the single-shot rifle was during the period when off-hand rifle shooting was the standard test of marksmanship. For instance, in the March 17, 1907, issue of *Arms and the Man*, predecessor of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, there is a report on the 1907 Annual Indoor Championship held at the old Zettler Brothers Gallery on West 23rd Street in New York City. This was a hundred-shot match at seventy-five feet, and the .22 Short cartridge was used. Targets were the old German Ring and Offhand Ring, both counting twenty-five points for the center. The scoring rings were close together, similar to today's fifty- and 100-meter small-bore targets. The total possible score was 2,500 points. The winner, R. Gute, shooting offhand with a Stevens-Pope rifle and a Stevens telescope, turned in a total score of 2,469 points! Also, back in the 1870's is the story of the international 1,000-yard matches, won by Yanks with single-shot Sharps and Remington .44 caliber rifles handling 100 grains of black powder and bullets of 500 grains and over. Those old-timers were real riflemen.

In these days of rifle shortages, a bolt action may not be available. Use a single shot instead. If it's a good one, you won't have to take a back seat against any bolt action on the line. As a matter of fact, a properly stocked lever-action single shot offers certain advantages over the most modern of bolt actions. For instance, a single-shot rifle with the same length barrel will be six to eight inches shorter overall than an equivalent bolt action. When using a loading block in any position, such rifles as the Ballard and Stevens Model 44 single shots are incomparably easier to load than any bolt action.

To be fast and easily operated, the lever of a single-shot match rifle should be either a loop similar to that on a Savage Model '99, or a bent lever like those on the old Stevens and Winchester single shots. Because the hand must be shifted to operate it, the worst lever is the type that follows the contour of the pistol grip. This was regular issue on the Stevens Walnut Hill 417, but the rifle could be had with a loop lever if so ordered. With a loop lever you push down with the backs of your fingers to open the rifle. With the standard Stevens and Winchester lever, you split your fingers so that the second finger is outside of the lever while the third is above the turned-up tip—that is, next to the bottom tang. Then, when you push down, your third finger takes the direct strain. In either case you do not change the position of your hand. This is very important.

If possible, the single-shot rifle should have a kicking ejector to clear the fired case from the chamber. Likewise, the hammer should cock as the action is closed. Stevens Model 44 rifles may be made to cock by reversing the link that connects the breechblock with the lever. This is not true of the Model 44½. The Winchester high sidewall cocked when closed in the older models, but later models did not. The Ballard must be thumb-cocked, but this is very easy to do with the fine Ballard hammer. Again, the Ballard has the fastest action time of any of these old models, though the Stevens and Winchester can be speeded up. The Winchester high-sidewall action should be milled away on the right side to make loading easier; if left as issued, this rifle is about as hard to load as the worst of the bolt actions. The modern Stevens Walnut Hill 417 is self-cocking, has fast action time, a kicking ejector, and is easy to load.

When using a rifle with a plain extractor, the empty case rides out on the extractor when you open the breech. With the stock on the shoulder, swing the rifle to the right and quickly bring up your hand, from the lever, and pick the case off the extractor with your thumb and forefinger. Or better yet, catch the rim of the case on top under the nails of your first and second fingers and flip the case out. It can be done very quickly.

Sights for a single-shot target rifle are no particular problem. For iron-sight matches, a tang rear sight like the Lyman 103 and 144, or any of the fine target sights with extension bases which bring them back close to the eye, are entirely satisfactory. That rear sight, though, should not be too far from the eye, as would be the case if a standard bolt-action sight were mounted on the receiver of the single shot. And, of course, a scope can be mounted as easily as on any other type of rifle.

This isn't an effort to convince anyone that the bolt action is an inferior type of target arm, or that it's going to be replaced by single shots in the hands of the majority of American shooters. Actually, the bolt action is about tops in the opinion of most small-bore shooters—if they can get one. But, if your dealer tells you he can't deliver a nice new bolt action for another couple of years, that's no reason to take up archery. If you can get your hands on a good single shot, you can hold your own in any company. And, it's surprising how many nationally known riflemen are using single shots—not because they can't get anything else, but because they like 'em. ◆ ◆ ◆

# POWDER SMOKE: THE NEWS DESK . . . READERS COMMENTS

## SUMMER LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

The Clearwater, Florida, Rifle and Pistol Club team #2 won the National Summer League Championship over almost 100 teams from every section of the country in the State and National finals fired October 6.

Winning the Florida West Coast Rifle League to become eligible for the finals, the Clearwater team #2, composed of R. A. Mapes, L. W. Abrahms, Lyta Abrams, and E. Baxter, scored 1577-68x over the iron sight Dewar course to win over the Wilmo Rifle Club of Cincinnati, Ohio, which scored 1575-74x. Third was the Mead Rifle Club of Chillicothe, Ohio, with 1564-68x.

This was the first outdoor league competition on a nation-wide basis and the response from clubs was enthusiastic.

There is every indication that the 1946-47 Gallery League Championships will exceed all existing records for this most popular type of club competition.

## JUNIOR CLUB POSTAL MATCHES

Junior rifle clubs affiliated with the NRA can now make entries in the 1946-'47 National Junior Club Postal Matches. These matches now provide four separate divisions with different courses of fire to enable teams of many different type clubs to compete within an appropriate class. These divisions are: A—Open Junior Teams; B—Interscholastic Teams; C—"Cub" Teams (under 15 years); D—Girls' Teams.

No club member may fire on more than one team within any one division or match. However, teams and shooters may be entered in several divisions in which they are eligible to compete. The five high scores for each ten-man team will constitute the team score in each match.

The entry fee per team is $2.00, and entries must be in Washington on or before November 15. The first match may be fired any time up to November 30.

## ALL DCM SALES TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED

During the month of August, approximately 27,000 requests were received, and on 1 October, there were about 50,000 requests in the Office of the DCM that had not been acted upon.

Due to this unprecedented volume of purchase requests, and the backlog of approvals now on hand at the arsenals waiting to be filled, it became necessary to accept no new purchase requests after 1 October 1946, and until further notice. All requests postmarked after 1 October 1946 are being returned to the sender.

Purchase requests received by the DCM postmarked 1 October 1946 or prior thereto are being handled in order of receipt as promptly as possible. As soon as this back-log of orders can be processed and the arsenals are able to fill them, sales will be resumed. An announcement will be made in THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN of the effective date of resumption of sales.

Club orders are also suspended.

The cooperation of all purchasers is requested. Please do not communicate unnecessarily with the DCM in regard to purchase requests previously submitted, as it will require at least three months to process individual requests on hand as of 1 October 1946.

## DIRECTORS ELECTED

At the Annual Business Meeting of the Members of the NRA held at Camp Perry, Ohio, September 4, 1946, the twenty Life Members named below were nominated and elected Directors of the Association for the three-year term ending September, 1949.

Major General M. A. Reckord (Md.)
Mr. J. W. Woolrey (Colo.)
Mr. E. N. Littleton (Ohio)
Capt. Walter F. Day (Wash.)
Major J. F. Holmes (Mo.)
Inspector Marvin F. Driver (Mich.)
Mr. Mark Cooper (Ga.)
Mr. Harvey O. Scofield (Wash.)
Mr. Carl E. Kastner (N. J.)
Mr. Frank T. Parsons, Jr. (Wash., D. C.)
Capt. M. C. Mumma, U.S.N. (ret'd.) (Va.)
Comdr. L. H. Morine, U.S.C.G. (Wash., D. C.)
Special Agent Walter Walsh (FBI) (Va.)
Mr. Lloyd Markle (Colo.)
Mr. A. L. Meloche (Arizona)
Mr. Samuel Bond (Ohio)
Mr. Emile J. Dutil (Calif.)
Comdr. Carl E. Bull, U.S.N. (Wash., D. C.)
Mr. Harry L. Palmer (N. Y.)
Mr. J. Alvin Badeaux (La.)

## R. C. WILSON

Thousands of riflemen will be grieved to learn of the death of R. C. Wilson of St. Louis, Mo., on September 12. "Chief" Wilson has been teaching young boys and girls the target shooting game at Grover Cleveland High School in winter and at the Lake Hubert Camps in summer for more years than any NRA junior club has been chartered. His skill as a coach and instructor consistently produced championship teams at both locations, while many of his youngsters went on to even higher honors in open competitions. Many men in the shooting game have devoted more time and effort to their own marksmanship; few have devoted as much to the introduction and training of youngsters who have kept and will continue to keep shooting alive.

## ANOTHER FIELD REPRESENTATIVE

Another Field Representative has been added to the Staff of the Association. Mr. C. L. Floyd took over his duties as NRA Field Representative for the Metropolitan Washington area a little over a month ago. A former Marine Corps officer, he will be in charge of the NRA Range in Washington, D. C., and serve as liaison between the NRA and clubs, leagues, members, and tournaments in the Washington area and nearby Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia.

For the present he is maintaining an office at NRA Headquarters.

### NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION:

### Headquarters Staff

MAJ. GEN. M. A. RECKORD, *Exec. Vice-President*
C. B. LISTER................*Secretary-Treasurer*
L. Q. BRADLEY.........*Individual Memberships*
J. R. LENT
F. L. WYMAN..................*Club Activities*
F. C. DANIEL    T. W. CHILD
C. R. ROGERS    J. H. FAUNTLEROY
W. F. SHADEL................*Public Relations*
R. J. STANN    J. A. HARPER    P. B. CARDINAL
MAJ. GEN. J. S. HATCHER..........*Technical*
EDWARDS BROWN, JR.    J. L. MURPHY
A. H. BARR    J. S. ROSE
E. M. CHASE..........................*Cashier*
L. F. THIEL........................*Librarian*

### Field Representatives

Southwestern...........Ray Whitaker
310 Tuloma Bldg.
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Midwestern............Dow Smith
Orpheum Theatre Bldg.
Elkhart, Indiana

Southeastern...........Fred Molt
P. O. Box 965
125½ College St.
Asheville, N. C.

Washington Metropolitan.C. L. Floyd
1600 Rhode Island Ave., N. W.
Washington, D. C.

### Executive Committee

Col. F. W. Parker, Jr..............Chicago, Ill.
(President, NRA)

Mr. Raymond K. Stritzinger.....New York, N. Y.
(Vice-President, NRA)

Maj. Gen. M. A. Reckord.........Baltimore, Md.
Mr. C. B. Lister.............Washington, D. C.
Mr. J. W. Woolrey.........Canon City, Colorado
Mr. Raymond C. Bracken.........Columbus, Ohio
Mr. Fred C. Mills.............New York, N. Y.
Mr. E. N. Littleton..........Bowling Green, Ohio
Mr. Seth Gordon...............Harrisburg, Pa.
Colonel E. F. Sloan.....................DCM
Captain M. C. Mumma....................USN
Major General Julian Smith.............USMC
Dr. E. O. Swanson..........Minneapolis, Minn.
Brig. General Sidney Hinds...............USA
Brig. General M. A. Edson..............USMC
Mr. Harry C. Linn............Des Moines, Iowa

### Executive Council

Brig. Gen. F. M. Waterbury.....New York, N. Y.
Brig. Gen. Benedict Crowell....Washington, D. C.
Mr. Karl T. Frederick..........New York, N. Y.
Mr. Gustavus D. Pope............Detroit, Mich.
Brig. Gen. L. W. T. Waller............USMCR
Colonel N. C. Nash...............Boston, Mass.
Judge Hilliard Comstock........Santa Rosa, Cal.
Colonel F. C. Endicott........Washington, D. C.
Comdr. Thurman Randle............Dallas, Tex.

# RICOCHETS

## MORE BLUING HINTS

Montezuma, Iowa.

Editor:

That was a very fine article on bluing Al Barr had in the September RIFLEMAN. I've been referring people to it almost every day. I am especially glad he told them not to plug the barrels.

I have blued a good many hundred pistols with the wife's bread pans, wash boiler, and her meat thermometer, and I can see no excuse why anyone would have to have a bluing outfit.

Fred Gray's 16 year old son showed him the best method of adding water to a bluing solution (from the home bluer's point of view) and it is so simple I bow my head. Simply add a few cakes of ice.

Here at my shop we use a method better than the one you suggested. We take a long-handled drinking dipper, fill it two-thirds full of water and submerge it to the lips at one end of the tank and then move it rapidly full length of the tank, at the same time pouring the water out of the back side into the wake of the dipper.

BOB BROWNELL.

## WILDCATTIN'

Providence, R. I.

Editor:

I'M an ardent wildcatter, so this isn't written with any idea of heckling the experimenters who develop those super .22's and .30's. I know that most of our best cartridges started life as wildcats. But . . . I can't tell you the kick I got out of those animated cartridges that were used with Bill Corson's "Wildcats Without Tears" in the September RIFLEMAN. Along with a lot of good common sense, that yarn was one of the neatest pieces of kidding I've seen.

L. C. COCHRAN.

*We're right with you . . . in endorsing the wildcats, and in feeling that no harm is done by a bit of humor now and then.*

## THE ENGLISH VIEW

Middlesex, England.

Editor:

I have read with interest the letter by Mr. C. E. Nordhus, of Seattle, published in the July AMERICAN RIFLEMAN. I hope my reply will help him to appreciate the position here, which is apparently a little confused by press reports.

I am a keen rifleman and club member, and like most of our fraternity, I resent any restrictions which affect our sport. But your correspondent must realize that England is for the most part thickly populated and it is impossible for many clubs to build open ranges, owing to the lack of space. It must, therefore, be obvious that it is not in the public interest to allow irresponsible individuals to possess firearms.

Apart from the danger of firearms being accidently discharged in built-up areas, there is the inevitable public feeling against rifle shooting generally, which would almost certainly follow a number of incidents.

A study of the British Press will show that there have been quite enough people shot by war souvenirs (usually unloaded) in the past year.

With regards to the firearms registration. This is not a yearly occurrence; all that is required is the return of the certificate once every three years for renewal. The cost is about half a dollar for three years.

I have yet to hear of a club member who was refused a permit. In fact, under the firearms act, it would be almost impossible for the police to refuse to issue one. And, in any case, we have the right of appeal to law.

I feel that most British riflemen will agree that it is not in our interest to have firearms distributed indiscriminately about the country and accessible to people who have no real use for them.

S. BROUGHTON.

## NIEDNER'S WORK

Cleveland, Ohio.

Editor:

I have in my collection of pedigreed barrels, an original made by Pop Niedner when he was doing experimental work for Dr. Mann, and which in my opinion furnishes concrete proof that T/5 Gerald O. Kelver has his feet on very solid ground in his letter on page 37 of the September RIFLEMAN.

This barrel is threaded for the Springfield '03 receiver, is 24½" in length, a straight taper medium weight barrel with a heavy collar shrunken on as chamber reinforcement. It has a single scope block and has been shortened and rechambered at least once as the ramp front sight which is missing shows former positioning on what is now the under side of the muzzle. It has NO serial number.

The barrel is stamped on both the upper and under sides of the breech "A. O. NIEDNER, MALDEN, MASS." where Pop resided when he was doing the work for Dr. Mann.

The chamber of this barrel is to me very apparently chambered for a case of identical dimensions with the standardized .257 Roberts, with the exception that the experimental Mann-Niedner cartridge has a very slightly longer neck as shown by the cast. Of course, in *seating* the .257 Roberts, this cannot be noticed.

Neither the Niedner nor the Griffin & Howe versions of the .250 High-Power cartridge, the .30-'06 differently necked, will seat in this chamber by approximately one half inch, but the commercial .257 Roberts cartridge seems to seat perfectly. I carefully screwed this old barrel into a Springfield receiver to test the seating and the bolt closed snugly, indicating by this crude and not-to-be-recommended head spacing test, that the cartridge they were fiddling with was to all intents what eventually became the .257 Roberts.

The rifling is six grooves, right hand twist, and is faster than 10 inches, but I have not had opportunity to measure this twist precisely. It is of course a beautifully made barrel and while it has had considerable use, it is still in about perfect condition inside and out with not a tool mark on it.

This barrel was given to a mutual friend of ours, by Mr. Niedner himself, about 25 years ago with the statement that it was made by him for Dr. Mann either in 1909 or 1910. I have owned it about ten years, but have never shot it. I have carefully slugged it for bore and groove dimensions and it registers exactly .2500" bore and .2571" groove with a very uniform bore indeed.

WALTER E. HEIGHTSHOE.

## ACCELERATING TWIST

Wilmington, Calif.

Editor:

Please take note of the article "Device for Cutting an Accelerating Twist in Gun Rifling," in the September 1946 issue of *Machinery* magazine.

JAMES L. RHOADS.

*For those readers interested, the magazine* Machinery *is published by the Industrial Press, 148 Lafayette Street, New York 13, N. Y.*—ED.

## HOW MANY TIMES?

Chicago, Ill.

Editor:

Speaking of "Perry's Defending Champions" on page 15 of the September issue, you fail to give Harry Reeves credit for his '40 win of the National All-Around Pistol Championship. He is now a three-time winner—'40, '41 and '46.

PAUL R. CRAWFORD.

## CARBINE OWNERSHIP

Chicago, Ill.

Editor:

In the October issue of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN (page 37), you state that no M-1 carbines have been authorized for sale to civilians or military personnel, so that all such weapons are definitely subject to seizure.

Here is an excerpt from a letter I received from the Treasury Department:

"Instructions have been issued to War Department personnel concerned that M-1 Carbines are not to be released to returning servicemen and that no sales thereof shall be permitted after June 30, 1946, and further that a person possessing such a weapon must produce a bill of sale bearing a date prior to July 1, 1946, or a certificate of authorization for its importation dated prior to the effective date (July 1, 1946) of the War Department directive forbidding importation of such firearms. By way of explanation, it may be said that the Carbine was never authorized by the War Department to be sold but due to faulty local interpretation of Army regulations these guns were sold in outlying areas."

CHARLES PANUSH,
Chicago Police Dept.

### "REAL SWEET OF 'EM"

Lynbrook, N. Y.

Editor:

Recently, when the time came for renewal of my non-resident pistol permit for New York City, my wife and I trekked in for that purpose. We always take a pistol along when we go because we often wind up practicing at the Manhattan Club. After renewing the permit we went up to the Club.

On the way back we passed through Washington market and the thrifty housewife loaded me down with fresh fruits and vegetables. Arriving at the car I laid the pistol, which was in the original factory box, on top of the coupe so as to free my hands for stowing the groceries. Then we drove away. Up Cedar Street to Broadway, then up Broadway to Franklin and turned right. At Lafayette I remembered about the revolver I had laid on top of the coupe. It was gone of course. I felt like a dog for pulling such a brainless trick. I retraced my course but with no luck. Feeling lower than a snake's tummy I sneaked back into the Police Station where I had just registered the gun only a few hours before. Fully expecting to be handled a little roughly, under the circumstances, and feeling that any such treatment was little enough in the way of punishment for the thing I had done, I was surprised when the coppers handled me with the utmost courtesy. They were "real sweet" and the detectives in the Second Squad to whom I was referred were very sympathetic. Said they would send the description out on teletype to all precincts; if no report came back on that they would make a routine check of the hock shops, etc. Said there was nothing for me to do but go back to Lynbrook and await word from them. So I drove home, arriving there about one hour later to learn that a Nassau County policeman had been to my house with a message. The revolver had been located; I was to go to the property clerk next morning and pick it up. The revolver was there all right. Everything in the carton was accounted for.

It had been found by a lad out for his lunch hour, who spotted it lying in the street at Broadway and Franklin and who called a cop.

Now all this courteous treatment might lead one to believe that some strange metamorphosis had taken place with the New York police. But alas, they ran true to form. Wishing to reward the lad who turned it in, I got his name from the property clerk and looked him up. I asked him how the cops had treated him and as I had feared he had a tale of woe to tell. They had kept him in custody all afternoon while they investigated him. This, in spite of the fact that they knew the owner of the gun and that it was properly licensed and had been lost by said owner. The boys' family were puzzled at the police investigation; his boss did not understand and was half a mind to fire him but compromised on docking his pay for the lost time. His friends were wondering what kind of mischief he had been into to send the cops scurrying around the neighborhood "investigating" him and all in all his reputation had received a bad coloring up. So, as is usually the case, the finder got the kicking around: A twist of police mentality that it is impossible for me to understand.

TOM KIZER.

### DUCK HUNTERS

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service invites you to join them on a big job. It needs plain, honest facts. It wants to know what you—the man in the blind with the gun—find out about ducks and geese during the present hunting season. The Service wants voluntary reports on results of your shooting. It wants your observations on the waterfowl situation to help in working out fair regulations.

Here's how you can help: Keep tally of the birds you bag, cripple, and observe this fall. At the end of the season, fill in this score card and send it to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Chicago 54, Illinois.

(1) Number and kind of ducks killed______

(2) How many cripples were lost?______

(3) Compared with last year, waterfowl numbers seen were:
( ) more ( ) less ( ) same

(4) Shooting grounds most frequently used: ( ) Public lakes and streams ( ) Commercial hunting club ( ) Private hunting club.

(5) Hunted in (state)______(county)______

(6) Number days______

(7) Comments______

______

(8) Name______Date______

Address______

## The SPOTTING SCOPE
### With RAY STANN

Good news may be in the offing for the "roll-your-own" boys . . . they can look for a break in the critical primer shortage before too long . . . as NRA efforts on their behalf seem about ready to produce results from two directions . . . with the War Department having indicated interest in resuming production, and the promise of increased output by the loading companies.

☆ ☆ ☆

The Garand rifle, long a subject for conjecture among competitive shooters as the target replacement of the future for the old reliable '03, will be put to the test again this month during the three-day Third Army Area Service Rifle Championships at Ft. Benning, Ga. . . . the matches open to civilian entries, to our knowledge for the first time since the war . . . The event, to run two days after the Third Army Area Service Pistol Championships at Ft. McPherson, Ga., is further indication of a boom in competitive shooting among the services . . . following, as it does, the big Marine Corps Championships early this summer which produced the able appraisal of the M-1 in competition carried in our September issue . . . All of which, plus the Navy's avowed intention of getting back into the match shooting picture, makes the speedy return of the full National Match program look good for '47 . . . and probably back at Camp Perry.

☆ ☆ ☆

The subject of safety is in the air again, coinciding with the opening of the hunting seasons . . . and in connection with its annual firearms safety campaign the NRA now has available a new series of full color posters, plus safety leaflets, news releases and speech material . . . We're doing what we can from headquarters, but members and clubs can do an even bigger job by reaching the sportsmen in their own communities.

☆ ☆ ☆

While on the subject, the NRA safety and instruction films are now in the hands of film depositories spotted throughout the entire country . . . better service for clubs who want to show them at the meetings, rallies and dinners that go with the approaching indoor season . . . But order them direct from NRA headquarters.

☆ ☆ ☆

Here's a new angle to marksmanship instruction . . . qualification tests to the accompaniment of songs by Sinatra . . . For the first time in history at Ft. Belvoir an entire company of 200 men qualified on their first trip to the rifle range . . . soothed and relaxed by the soft, dulcet tones of The Voice . . . Pennsylvania's wide-awake Game Commission has a new campaign under way . . . getting hunters and landowners on more amicable terms. . . . It's an idea that might be worth some effort all over.

## BOOK REVIEWS

### "RIFLEMAN'S PROGRESS"

*By* Ellis Christian Lenz

This book is, I think, a sincere attempt to do what badly needs doing—to present in popular narrative form some of the basic requirements of small arms marksmanship; to show the value of the Camp Perry small arms firing school to the average hunter; to indicate how the N. R. A. program as applied to the local civilian rifle club provides training and recreation for the "average shooter"; and to give a picture of the variety of guns and cartridges which can be used and are used in big game hunting, even on the varied and dangerous game species found on African safari.

No rifleman will take exception to the technical accuracy of "Rifleman's Progress" nor to the faithful portrayal of Camp Perry during "school week." The description of the African hunt rings true in all its careful detail.

But somehow the book fails to rouse enthusiasm. It fails to sparkle. When two lions rise unexpectedly out of the grass fifty yards ahead, the skin on your scalp ought to tighten—but it doesn't. When the tyro in the school at Perry hangs up a 46 x 50 at 1,000 yards you ought to feel a surge of admiration or enthusiasm—but you don't. Devoting thirty-four of the book's 162 pages to a description of the boat and plane voyage to Africa, including shopping experiences en route, breaks into the continuity of the narrative as a shooting tale.

We do not believe the average reader of The Rifleman will find the book to be either of absorbing interest or of material value from the technical standpoint.—C. B. L.

*(Published by Standard Publications, Inc., Huntington, W. Va., 1946. Fabrikoid. Gold titles. 164 pages, 7½ x 10½. 51 halftones and pen and ink illustrations. Price $10.00.)*

### PHEASANT HUNTING

*By* John Hightower

If you are an upland game hunter, or have ambitions to become one, or like dogs, I believe you'll enjoy trampling the stubble and pushing through the alders with John Hightower and his friends (including many varieties of dogs adapted to pheasant hunting).

Hightower, with this book, took me back to my old home hunting grounds on the South Dakota prairie where it is reported that the pheasants sometimes flush for lack of standing room. "As we neared the limits of the field, the birds started to take wing, and I was almost too impressed to shoot. They boiled up, not by two's, three's, or even dozens. Harry had been stating merely facts when he said that they rose by hundreds."

I say he took me back because he, having been there, and being a pheasant hunter, mentions those little things which recall the prairie view, the smells and the emotions that swell up in a pheasant hunter and make him want to go back for more when the autumn months roll around again.

There are many good hints on training various types of hunting dogs and developing specialized pheasant hunting tactics in them. His own dogs have real personality. "As Neeby and I came up behind him, I could see him roll his eyes back at me and could hear the faint popping of his jaws as thin threads of saliva dripped from his flews. That scent might be new to him but, golly, how he loved it! You could see him fairly tasting it."

This work is not a textbook on pheasant hunting which merely gives you cold facts. The author takes you graphically through his pheasant hunting experiences from the time of his youth. The book is alive with interesting action. Yet it is chuck full of information on outwitting the pheasant, even to the extent of making him palatable after he has weathered so many seasons that he is no longer tender enough to eat in the ordinary fashion. I think you will like the 227 pages of pheasant hunting.—E.B.

*(Published by Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1946.)*

### ELEMENTS OF AMMUNITION

*By* Maj. Theodore C. Ohart

During the war a visitor to the office of the Ordnance Department's Chief of Ammunition would have seen a dazzling and confusing array of fuzes, shells, cartridge cases, mines, bombs, and many other such items in steel, brass, aluminum, plastic, and various other materials. Such an experience would leave the visitor gasping at the terrific complexity of the design and engineering problems involved in furnishing an army with the multiplicity of highly technical material broadly known as ammunition.

A glance into Major Ohart's book gives the same impression. There are 412 profusely illustrated pages, packed with concentrated information on the subject of ammunition in the most comprehensive sense of the word.

Among the subjects covered are explosives, propellants, small arms ammunition, artillery ammunition, fuzes, bombs, bomb clusters, bomb fuzes, pyrotechnics, rockets, grenades, mines, ammunition packing, etc., etc.

Most of the important items, such as shells, mines, bombs and fuzes, are shown in photographs, sectional cuts, diagrams and phantom drawings to illustrate functioning.

Under each principal subject division, the pertinent fundamental design considerations are given, together with the mathematical formulae involved. Particularly interesting at this time are the formulae governing the thrust of a jet as applied to rocket propulsion.

The shaped charge, secret of the famous "Bazooka," is fully described in its several modifications. The object of the book is to reduce to print and make readily available to the engineering and technical talent of the nation as much as possible of the great mass of special knowledge necessary for ammunition design and production.

The book is thoroughly authoritative, having been written at Picatinny Arsenal by one of the Ordnance Department's foremost experts on the subject.—J.S.H.

*(Published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 440 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, New York. Price $6.00)*

## COMING EVENTS

The four classes of registered tournaments are indicated as follows: AA—National Matches; A—Regionals; B—State championships and large district matches; C—Local. Unregistered and Unclassified are so indicated, as are tournaments requiring pre-entries or limiting entries.

**NOVEMBER**

**1-2-3, Illinois (C)**—Fourth Annual Midwest Gallery Pistol Championship, at Chicago. S. O. Kyvig, 227 East Richmond Street, Westmont.

**3, California (Unregistered)**—Southland Pistol Matches. R. S. Pease, Route 3, Box 84, San Diego.

**3, California (Unregistered)**—Oakland Monthly Pistol Tournament. John Valerga, Jr., 3800 Cerrito Avenue, Oakland.

**9-10, Florida (B)**—Florida West Coast Small Bore Championships. L. W. Abrams, 705 Prospect Avenue, Clearwater. Advance entries required.

**10, Texas (C)**—6th Annual Small Bore Match. C. H. Elliott, Box 2119, Houston.

**10, California (Unregistered)**—Bay District Small Bore. C. DeWitt, 3701 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland.

**15-17, Georgia (B)**—3rd Army Area Pistol Championship, at Fort McPherson. Major Edwin Harding, Hq. 7th Army, Atlanta.

**16-17, California (C)**—Pacific S. W. and Southern California Small Bore Tournament. Jack E. Cornell, 662 Arden Ave., Glendale.

**17, California (C)**—San Francisco Police Monthly Pistol. Emile Dutile, 324 16th Ave., San Francisco.

**17, California (C)**—Southern California Pistol & Revolver League. Jack Cornell, 662 Arden Avenue, Glendale.

**19-21, Georgia (B)**—3rd Army Area Service Rifle Championship, at Fort Benning. Major Edwin Harding, Hq. 7th Army, Atlanta.

**24, Pennsylvania (Unregistered)**—Muzzle-loading Rifle Turkey Shoot, at Shartlesville. Jerry Hirtle, Bath.

**DECEMBER**

**1, California (Unregistered)**—Southland Pistol Matches. R. S. Pease, Route 3, Box 84, San Diego.

**1, California (Unregistered)**—Oakland Monthly Pistol Tournament. John H. Valerga, Jr., 3800 Cerrito Avenue, Oakland.

**7-8, Idaho (C)**—First Annual Magic Valley Small Bore Gallery Tournament. J. W. Sidwell, 833 Shoshone Street, Twin Falls.

**14, New York (C)**—Metropolitan Rifle League Gallery Tournament. Eleanor Dunn, 2922 Concourse, Bronx.

## STOLEN GUNS

The following guns were stolen from Al's Gun Shop, Lake Charles, Louisiana, on August 21st. Notify Alfred H. Giertz, 7th & Common, Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Remington M-10, 12-gauge shotgun, #209885; St. Louis Arms Co. 12-gauge double-barreled shotgun, #17391; Winchester M-12, 12-gauge shotgun, #211834; Spanish .38 caliber pistol, #33000, newly chromed; two Winchester M-12, 16-gauge shotguns, #238307 and #323433; Western Field 12-gauge shotgun, #75878; L. C. Smith 12-gauge shotgun, #202535, new left main spring; S. & W. .38 caliber pistol, #335352; Colt .32-20 pistol, #21540; Crescent 12-gauge double-barreled shotgun, #667; three Remington M-11, 12-gauge shotguns, #348079, #232533, and #147617; Savage over and under 12-gauge shotgun, #12934; Winchester M-97, 12-gauge shotgun, #849639; Winchester M-06, .22 caliber rifle, #750066; Colt Frontier Model .41 caliber rifle, #181924; Ranger 12-gauge shotgun, #94449, new action slide; S. & W. .38 caliber pistol, #458321; two Winchester M-12, 12-gauge shotgun, #438247 and #694346; Remington M-31, 12-gauge shotgun, #518149; Winchester M-12, 20-gauge shotgun, #624622; Winchester M-42, 410-gauge shotgun, #9811; Colt double-action .38 caliber revolver, #207650; Walther P-38, 9 mm. caliber pistol, #14118 and #4757C; Hungarian service rifle, #B-9754; Russian revolver, #3876; Steyer 9 mm. automatic pistol, #77651; Colt M1911 .45 caliber pistol, #2118345; Walther 7.65 mm. pistol, #319474; Belgian 7.65 mm. (Browning patent) pistol, #67722; Luger 9 mm. pistol, #6036; Winchester M-97, 12-gauge shotgun, #967768; Mississippi Valley 12-gauge shotgun, #S22188; Colt .45 caliber revolver, #176872; French .25 caliber revolver, #373; German air pistol; German .22 caliber single-shot rifle, set triggers; Marlin .22 caliber automatic; Winchester M1886, .38 caliber repeater pistol.

Colt .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol, #C-88415. Sgt. J. Vincent Louden, 8924 37th Ave., South, Seattle 8, Washington.

One S. & W. .44 caliber revolver, Russian Model, #3864. Notify Chief Frank Hunt, Police Dept., Kellogg, Idaho.

One B & L Spotting Scope, #230326, with Freeland offset stand stolen at Camp Perry, Ohio. Walter B. Fowler, R. D. #4, Washington, Pa.

Colt .45 caliber pistol, #C-142035. Therman S. Densmore, % Staff, Huntington Hotel, Pasadena, Calif.

# TOURNAMENT REVIEWS

Fresh from Perry, St. Louis, Missouri, pistol shooters had to put down Brig. Gen. Sidney R. Hinds in the Greater St. Louis Revolver Club's annual match on September 22nd. Policeman Paul Spavor won the tournament with 1713 over T/Sgt. Huelet Benner's 1711. Hinds took third with 1694. V. J. Tiefenbrunn was right behind with 1692.

☆ ☆ ☆

In winning the Flourtown Sportsmen's Fall rifle tournament, Flourtown, Pa., September 8, George J. Stidworthy set a new range record with his aggregate of 1191-69x. Mrs. Helen Williams, Plymouth Meeting, Pa., in her first year of competition, scored 200-14x in one stage of the 50 yard match.

☆ ☆ ☆

The Central Pennsylvania Rifle Club scored a 33 point victory over the Hummelstown Shooting Ass'n in the Central Pennsylvania Rifle League. The Pennsylvania team scored 1987-110x over Hummelstown's 1985-106x in the final league meet to give them a 15,805 season total.

☆ ☆ ☆

Eighty-five shooters qualified over the 200-yard Army course at the .30 caliber shoot sponsored by the Chester Gun Club of the Bronx, September 29, at the National Guard range, Peekskill, N. Y. In a special prone and offhand match, W. S. Sloatmen of the Rippowam Rifle and Gun Club won first prize.

☆ ☆ ☆

The masters and experts were beaten by a smart sharpshooter, George Maddison, in the Eastern Minnesota rifle tournament, September 22, in Mora, Minn. Maddison scored 397-16x to win the iron sight Dewar match, went on to compile 1364-61x and beat E. O. Franzen's 1363-66x. This tournament featured a four-position match at 50 yards; George Monson's 189 was high.

☆ ☆ ☆

Dwight Kleist, Souderton, Pa., won the Lehigh Valley fall smallbore championship, fired September 22 in Allentown, Pa. Kleist's winning score was 1195-79x. Roy Oster performed brilliantly again, winning Marksman First Class competition in every match and in the aggregate. Oster's aggregate score was 1193.

☆ ☆ ☆

The Arlington Rifle Club's tournament in Woburn, Mass., September 14 and 15, attracted 104 riflemen. Chet Heald, USMC, won the 200 yard offhand event, scoring eight bulleyes to Chet Elroy's six. John Johnsen was winner of the 200-yard prone match with 150-6x. The 100-yard smallbore match went to T. E. Littlefield, Rochester, N. H., and his 300-21x, which outranked the same score fired by Harold Buck, Framingham, Mass.

Don Bush, Torrington, Conn., and Sam Clark, Oakland, Maine, divided the four Schuetzen matches in the first outdoor match held since 1942 in Schuetzen Park, Hartford, Conn., on September 15. Bush won two offhand matches, one with 442x500 and the other with 72x75. Clark scored a perfect 225 to win the rest match and 215x225 offhand.

☆ ☆ ☆

Karl Engelbrecht, Marion, Indiana, took the honors in the Fall Smallbore Tournament of the County Line Rifle and Pistol League, September 15, in Milwaukee, Wis. Firing one of the two possibles of the day, Engelbrecht scored 1188-59x to win the aggregate over Marshall Grosskopf, Marion, Wis.

☆ ☆ ☆

No trouble was had by Leo Allstot, Mason City, Iowa, in winning the fifth annual American Legion pistol tournament at Bettendorf, Iowa, on September 15. Allstot's 1705 was way above second-place Ward Rainwater's 1681. The club championship award went to Glenn Thompson, who turned in a 1579.

☆ ☆ ☆

F. E. Bates, Worcester, Mass., won four of the five matches at the Cos Cob R. & R. Club's tournament in Cos Cob, Conn., September 10. V. E. Sargent, New York, N. Y., won the other event. Jasper Murphy, John Boudreau, R. W. Shimer, and John Mahran won the four-man team event with a score of 1125.

☆ ☆ ☆

Charles Whipple, Greensburg, Pa., won the three-match summer series of the Kittanning Rifle and Pistol Club, which closed with the firing of the last event, September 15. Whipple's score for the season was 4774. Robert Moore, Claysville, Pa., took second with 4771.

Henry Jacobs, Woodland, Calif., won two of the four matches at the San Francisco Police Monthly Pistol Tournament, September 15, at Lake Merced, Calif. Jacobs scored 193 to take the rapid-fire match and 275 to win the .45 National Match course event. But Jack Ahern came out winner in the aggregate with 1051. Quentin Brooks, Pauls Valley, Oklahoma, was second, 1049.

☆ ☆ ☆

J. E. Hirtle, Bath, Pa., won two firsts, a third, and the aggregate in taking the Eastern States Muzzle Loading Championship, September 22, in Cos Cob, Conn. Runnerup was William Wait, Jr., Glen Cove, N. Y.

☆ ☆ ☆

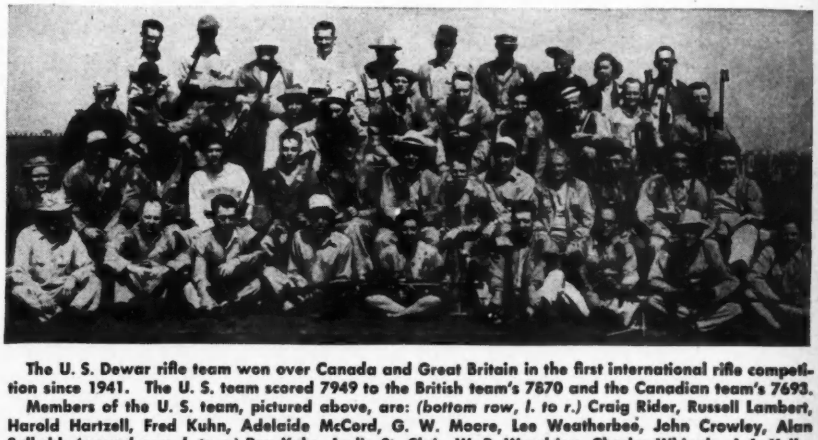
Two of four matches in the Fort Roberdeau Rifle Tournament, Altoona, Pa., September 22, went to A. C. Blensinger, Rochester, N. Y. Blensinger scored 398-20x and 400-25x to win the metallic and any sight 100 yard events. Charles Whipple, Greensburg, Pa., took the 50 yard metallic match with 400-35x, and Sam Kennedy, Beaver Falls, Pa., was winner of the any sight 50 yard event with 400-30x.

☆ ☆ ☆

Top honors in the Des Moines Rifle and Revolver Club's smallbore tournament, September 22, at Camp Dodge, Iowa, went to John Moschkau, who won the tournament aggregate. Moschkau's winning possible in the 50 yard match and 399 in the 50 meter contributed to his 1197 score in the aggregate. Carl Frank, Rochester, Minnesota, was second.

☆ ☆ ☆

Vaughn Cail, New Haven, Conn., beat out John Crowley, also of New Haven, by only three x's after touch and go throughout the Fellows Gear-Shaper Club's smallbore tournament, September 22, in Springfield, Vermont. Cail's victory came with his 1596-109x. Two sharpshooters defeated the field in two individual matches. Perley Littlefield won the 50 yard any sight match with 400-31x and Frank Cooper took the any sight 100 yard event with 400-30x.



**The U. S. Dewar rifle team won over Canada and Great Britain in the first international rifle competition since 1941. The U. S. team scored 7949 to the British team's 7870 and the Canadian team's 7693.**

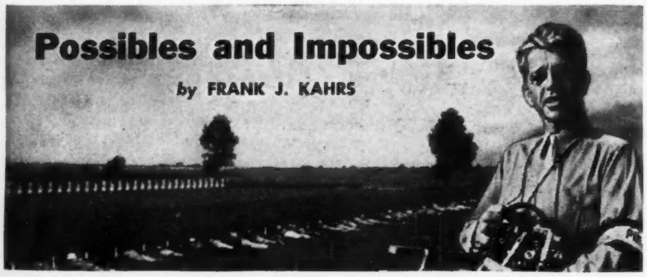
**Members of the U. S. team, pictured above, are: *(bottom row, l. to r.)* Craig Rider, Russell Lambert, Harold Hartzell, Fred Kuhn, Adelaide McCord, G. W. Moore, Lee Weatherbee, John Crowley, Alan Salkeld; *(second row, l. to r.)* Roy Kuhn, Leslie St. Clair, W. B. Woodring, Charles Whipple, J. L. Kelly, Jr., Ransford Triggs, Sam Kennedy, Arthur Cook, W. P. Schweitzer, Alvin Ferber, Harold Brown, Ed Dobscha, Al Freeland; *(third row, l. to r.)* Jack Lacy, Earl Saunders, George Thompson, C. V. Jones, Carl Frank, Kyle Snowhill, F. D. Parker, Ernest Pade, D. E. Kleist, Eugene Beecher, O. T. Krebs; *(top row, l. to r.)* William Patriquin, John Wark, Andy Yearsley, Fred Spencer, D. E. Jacoby, John Kelly, R. W. Calhoun, Eric Johnson, Kay Woodring and Edwin Rader.**

A PAPER FOR PEOPLE WHO SHOOT

# Rifle

VOL. 9, NO. 11

BRIDGEPORT, CONN



## Possibles and Impossibles

by FRANK J. KAHRS

I haven't seen the range at Michigan City, Indiana, personally, but one of the boys told me about it while I was at the Wyandotte Shoot recently. He says that Michigan City has a rifle range that is a honey! Consists of 40 firing points, all covered with heavy canvas on all-steel frame. Also, the targets are set in pipes in concrete a la Camp Perry.

Furthermore, they have a public address system and a raised platform for the Chief Range Officer. Now the interesting thing about it is that the boys have taken advantage of an old railroad caboose. You remember the little red box-like affair that trails along at the end of a freight train like a tail to a kite with a little cupola at the top. Well, up in the cupola the boy who matches up the targets and scores carries on his laborious duties undisturbed, and, of course, the statistical crew carries on below.

Another important item he mentioned was the fact that they have good drinking water, and even at the well there are towels and soap for those who wash up—not in the well, however, but the water is there for those who want it. There are excellent eating facilities, too, nearby. This new and fine range is located on the main highway (4-lane highway) six miles out of Michigan City. Someday we are going up there and take a look at this new outfit.

* * *

Every now and then I pick up a bit of information that I consider interesting enough to pass along in the column. The other day I received a letter from a lad who thought I might be interested in his experiences at the Allied Rifle Matches at Bagnolia, Italy, in July, 1945.

There were 11 teams entered, including the British Army, British Navy, South Africa and the United States. The 8th Port Team took first place and the 38th Ordnance Team second. They shot at two and three hundred meters using the "A" target. The Springfields they found best were the A-3 Remingtons and they had star-gauged guns, too. Most of the American shooters used these rifles and they made some remarkable groups at three hundred meters.

That's the story I got from this lad, who also added that he used an A-4 Remington sniper's rifle with telescope and mounts removed, and had to sleep with it to keep the others from stealing it. Quite a plug for Remington, I'd say.

* * *

Starting out just before Decoration Day we have covered a State or Regional shoot every week end since then until now. Don't know how many miles we have covered, but we remember getting on the plane at Denver early one afternoon and winding up at the Newark, New Jersey, airport at 6 o'clock the following morning. It took about 18 hours to do what we would ordinarily do in eight hours. We made 10 stops on the way and in every place we recognized the home of a rifle club where we had been not long before.

We enjoyed every one of these shoots—including the Eastern Regionals at Altoona, which had the largest attendance—201. Deerfield, Illinois, I think, had the smallest, but they had a swell shoot. Denver was good, too, and then there was Allentown; Sea Girt; Wyandotte, Michigan; Dallas, Texas; Mount Gilead; Marietta; Quantico; Des Moines.

So far as we are concerned, the finest range was at Marietta. It is a honey! We are going to have more to say about that range with pictures and details later on. The largest and best was the new range at Altoona, and then Deerfield, Mt. Gilead, and Allentown with its nicely covered range and compactness.

We had a lot of fun at all these and saw much shooting and many a match won with the Model 37 and either Palma Kleanbore or Targetmaster.

# RECO
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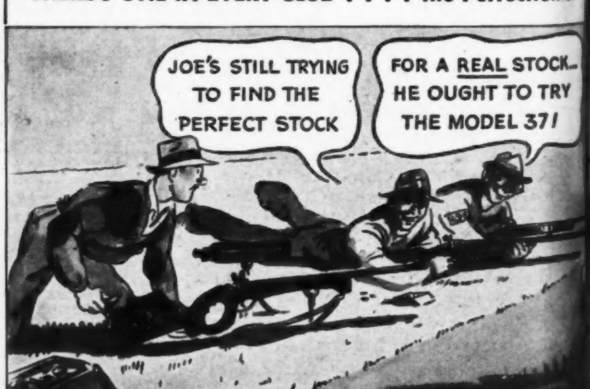
## PISTOL SHOOTERS CREATE RUSH F
## REMINGTON "TARGETMASTER" 22's

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., November, 1946. It's another aftermath of the National Matches. Within the limits of present conditions, Remington manufacturing facilities are going full blast to meet the unprecedented demand for Remington Targetmaster ammunition. They are the pistol shooters' favorite.

While local dealers' stocks may seem meager, future shipments will be increased as rap idly as supplies of raw mat rials and production capacit permit. We are looking fo ward to the day when the will be sufficient Targetmaste ammunition for everyon Meanwhile, shooters are as to bear with us.

Remington
POLICE TARGETMASTER
KLEANBORE
22 LONG RIFLE LUBRICATED
POLICE TARGETMASTER
Ammunition

THERE'S ONE IN EVERY CLUB . . . . *the Perfectionist*


JOE'S STILL TRYING TO FIND THE PERFECT STOCK
FOR A REAL STOCK.. HE OUGHT TO TRY THE MODEL 37!

Remington News

WEATHER:
COOL AND COMFORTABLE—TIME FOR
A HUNTING TRIP

PORT, CONN., NOVEMBER, 1946 First Class Reading Matter for Rifle Shooters

# ORD DEMAND FOR GTON MATCH AMMO

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## HERE'S WHAT HUNTERS WANT IN SHOT SHELLS

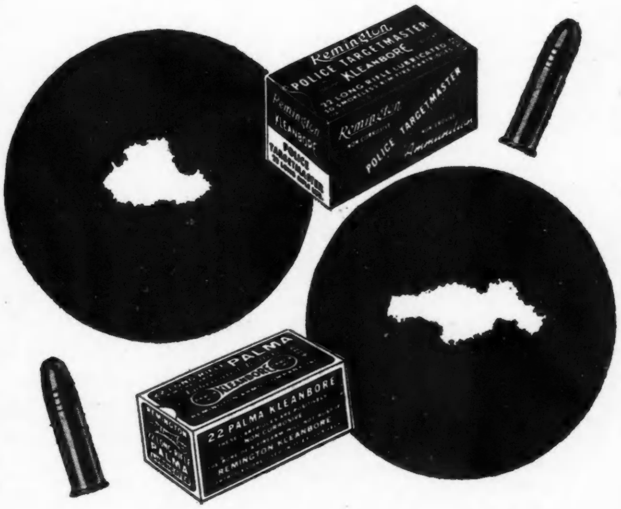
*Power* is the feature in shot shells wanted most by hunters. That's what you get in Remington Express shells. They're extra powerful . . . with added range and wallop to bring down high-flying game. Other features include Wetproofing, Kleanbore priming and tough, corrugated bodies.

**Remington EXPRESS long-range power loads**

Remington Shur Shot field loads are "just right" for upland game . . . with power enough to get what you go after. They're always dependable and have the same exclusive features as found in Remington Express long-range power loads.

**Remington Shur Shot field loads**

## MORE TOP-NOTCH SHOOTERS USING "TARGETMASTER" & "PALMA KLEANBORE"



BRIDGEPORT, CONN., November, 1946. Word has gone around fast. "Shooters using Remington match ammunition took home big prizes at the Camp Perry National Matches!" And ever since, shooters in all sections of the country have clamored for it. The men and women at local clubs have watched many of their favorites, the folks who competed at Camp Perry, shooting Remington Targetmaster and Palma Kleanbore ammunition exclusively.

At the 59th Nationals—the Remington claim for unsurpassed accuracy proved itself true! And there was no secret about what ammunition the big winners were using. It was Remington! Contestants and onlookers saw shooters consistently make better groups with Remington Targetmaster and Palma Kleanbore ammunition.

### Preserving Accuracy

In meeting new demands for Targetmaster and Palma Kleanbore match ammunition, Remington ballistics experts maintain close control over all phases of manufacture. The ballistic control laboratories are on their toes—checking and double-checking every lot of ammunition shipped. Standards of quality will be carefully preserved . . . improved wherever possible . . . to assure you of unsurpassed performance with every box of Remington 22 match ammunition.

## MEET AMERICA'S SMOOTHEST PUMP GUN

Remington Model 31

Acclaimed by aerial gunnery trainees of the armed forces as "the gun with the 'ball-bearing' action," the Remington Model 31 pump-action shotgun offers advantages found in no other popular-priced gun of its type. The Model 31 can't be beat for fast handling, speedy action and smooth operation. Available in limited quantities in 12, 16 and 20 gauges with barrel lengths to meet every requirement of small game and waterfowl hunters, trap and skeet shooters.

Short Stroke—Fewer Moving Parts. Straight Line Feed—No Jamming. Convenient Action Release & Safety. Easy Interchangeability of Barrels.

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Targetmaster, Palma, Express, Wetproof and Kleanbore are Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. Shur Shot is a trade-mark of Remington Arms Company, Inc.

# DOPE BAG

**Conducted by Major General J. S. Hatcher**

**Edwards Brown, Jr., A. H. Barr, J. L. Murphy, J. S. Rose**

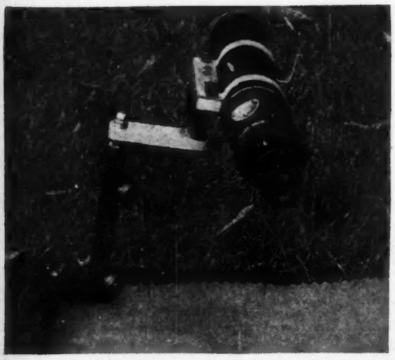
## THIS MONTH:

**New Scope Stands · Smokeless Powder Grains · The Baby Nambu · Johnson Machine Gun · Convenient 8 mm. Conversion · Enfield Barrel on Mauser · Reloading Shot Shells · Mark I 1903 Springfield · Frangible Top Wads · Lovell or Bee? · Chilled or Drop Shot? · Trade Dope.**

### SCOPE STANDS

The conventional tripod scope stand has dominated the field for many years. In earlier days it was natural for the manufacturers to select a stand similar to the support used by the surveyor and photographer for their transits and cameras. As a result, the Freeland- or Hart-type stand is most frequently encountered on our ranges today.

The referee and range officer have helped to turn that third leg of the tripod stand into a severe mental hazard, since every prone shooter knows that he must take a position which does not allow any part of his coat or body to touch the tripod leg. In order to escape reprimand or disqualification at the hands of the referee, most shooters place themselves so far from the scope that the movement necessary for spotting changes sling tension and position. Excessive movement on the firing line has never been conducive to tight groups, so the belly shooters are torn between the desire to spot and the effort to maintain a fixed position. This is especially true of the iron-sight competitor, who wishes to use the scope for mirage reading and sight adjustment.



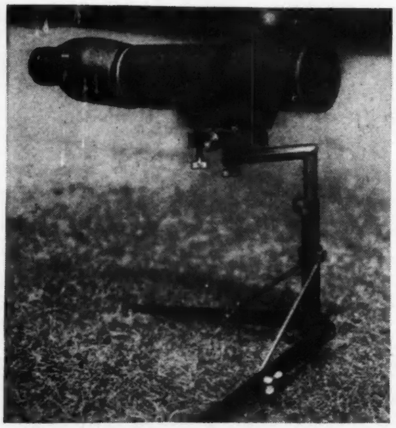
A movement to overcome these difficulties started in home workshops some time ago. This year at Perry, we watched nearly forty of these products of basement ingenuity make their debuts. Nearly all were good and a few were very fine.

In two cases, we saw brake drums being used for bases, with a goose neck arm arching over to the spot desired. Another was a scope rest mounted on a two-foot, pointed, steel rod equipped with a foot rest so that it could be pushed into the ground at an angle. The scope cradle was mounted at the top of the rod.

Also observed were several conventional tripods which had been altered so that the offending leg was cut through and lock-hinged in the middle. This gave the leg an L shape, permitting the left wrist and forearm to pass over the nearly horizontal base of the L. If I were the owner of a conventional stand I would most certainly give this conversion serious consideration. It is not necessary to risk the destruction of a good stand, as the original leg may be removed temporarily and replaced by experimental, scrap metal jobs.

Perhaps the greatest future awaits the so-called "right-angle" stands. Pictures of three different makes appear on these pages, in which you can observe that the right-angle stand will in no way interfere with the shooter. Rigidity is comparable to that of the conventional tripod, because it possesses almost the same base, with a well-placed center of gravity. All of these stands may be folded into a fairly small package for carrying.

As can be seen in the photographs of the Oster and Blades products, the ground cloth need not touch the right-angle stand. This facility permits the shooter to move on the cloth without fear of disarranging scope alignment. So convenient is the scope when mounted on one of these stands that we have been able to take a position whereby the target is observed with the left eye while sighting with the right. To some of you, this may sound unnecessary, but I consider it valuable to the competitive shooter who should not move between rounds. This also gives the advantage of observing any wind shift the instant it occurs. All of us have experienced the switch of a "fishtail" which arrived too late to be seen in the scope, but in sufficient time to toss a shot out.



**Three of the improved scope stands seen at Perry this year. Left, the Blades; center, Whitaker, as used by small boresman Sam Tekulsky; and right, the Oster. Note that all of them bring the scope to convenient position without crowding shooter**

It is unfortunate that we lack a photograph of the Sam Moore stand. To the best of our knowledge, his was the first stand of this type and most of the right-angle stands seen on the ranges today follow the general construction of his rest.

Of all the stands we observed, we were most impressed by the one in small-boresman Sam Tekulsky's dope kit. It was made by Jack Whitaker of New York and its picture appears here in the 'Dope Bag.'

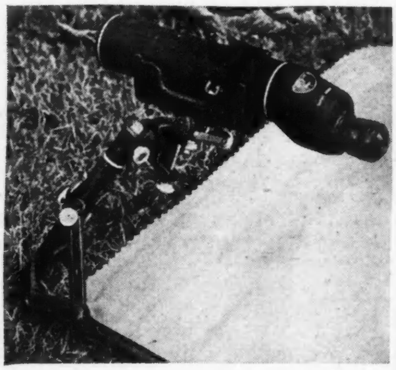
The only suggestion we could make toward the improvement of this lightweight stand is the hinging of the elbow in the cradle support. If that idea is followed, it will be possible to carry the dismantled stand in the smallest compartment of most shooting kits.

I believe that we have here another example of the development of one more refinement in the gun game, which has been brought about by a demand on the part of the shooters.—J. S. R.

### SMOKELESS POWDER GRAINS

"Most powder grains I have seen are normally made with a hole or several holes through the center so that the powder is ignited on both the outside and the inside. I understand that this is one means of controlling the rate of burning of the powder. If this is the case, how is the burning rate of the spherical powder found in the .30 caliber carbine cartridge controlled? Will this type of powder be used in sporting ammunition?"—O. R. FREDERICKS, San Francisco, Calif.

**Answer:** You are right about the reason for the holes or perforations in grains of smokeless powder. A powder such as Cordite, which is long in relation to its diameter and has no perforations, is termed degressive burning. As the burning progresses the burning surface becomes less. Smokeless powders in the form of flakes or single perforated cylinders have burning surfaces which remain very nearly constant. The burning characteristics of these powders are sometimes changed by a deterrent coating which puts them in the class of a progressive burning powder.



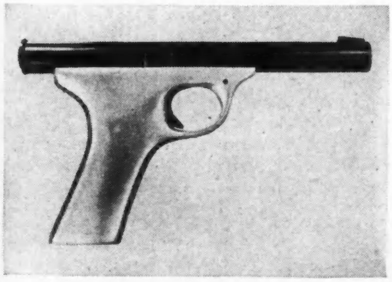
The perforations in a powder grain permit the powder to ignite and burn from within and from without. Of course, as the burning progresses from the inside, the burning area at that point increases. Most of the powders for large-caliber guns are multiperforated (usually seven holes). In this case there is such a large area exposed on the inside that the powder is, without question, referred to as a progressive burning powder. The term progressive or degressive, strictly speaking, refers to burning area rather than the burning speed. Actually all smokeless powders, when confined, burn progressively because they burn faster as the pressure and temperature increase in the chamber.

One of the most important factors considered in the design of the powder has to do with the amount of surface offered in relation to the size of the grain. The term "web" is commonly used in relation to the design and can be defined as the least burning thickness from the edge of one surface to the edge of the next surface in the diametric direction.

The spherical powder to which you refer is commonly known as "ball powder." This powder is produced by the Western Cartridge Company and was the accepted powder for loading .30 caliber carbine ammunition during World War II. Early in the war some of this type powder was used for loading Government .30 caliber ammunition (.30-'06). It was also used extensively in loading service ammunition for the British and Chinese. To what extent Western will use this powder in sporting ammunition is not yet known, but it is natural to assume that they will try to make use of it because the process is relatively safe, and certain economies are possible in its manufacture.

From what I have stated up to this point, it appears that ball powder is a degressive burning powder, but there are certain controls, other than ball size, introduced to influence the burning rate. For one thing, most of the ball powder produced has been double base. In other words, it contains nitroglycerine. The percentage of nitroglycerine is a factor in the burning rate as well as the potential of the powder.

The initial burning rate of ball power is controlled, within limits, by a deterrent which can be incorporated in the surface of the grain. This deterrent may be Centralite. There are other deterrents which can be used. The deterrent slows down the burning on the outside layer of the ball grain.—E. B.



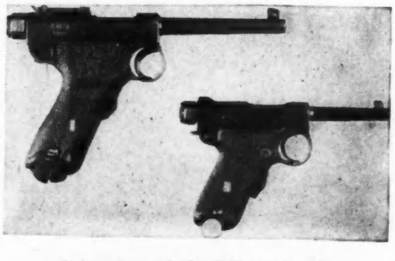
**The "Lite-Gun" training pistol**

## THE LITE-GUN

L. A. Vought, pistol instructor for the East Cleveland Pistol Range and for twelve years a police department pistol instructor, has developed the Lite-Gun training pistol pictured here. Vought used this gun as an aid in instructing police, and during the last few years has also used it to good advantage for rapid training of defense plant guards.

The pistol consists of a blued steel tube 8½ inches long, which holds a small flashlight bulb and battery and a special achromatic lens mounted in the muzzle. A conventional front sight is used, and a rear sight, made from a washer with the square notch cut in the rim. The washer fits flat against the rear end of the tube and is secured by a large head screw through the center hole. The screw shank being smaller in diameter than the washer hole permits sight adjustment in any direction. The trigger has a 4- to 5-pound pull, which closes the circuit to the light bulb. Grip and trigger guard are in one piece of cast aluminum.

The special lens throws a well-defined spot of light onto the target when the trigger is pulled. The beam stays on as long as the trigger is held back. The pistol can be used at very short ranges or on indoor pistol ranges. Furnished with the pistol is a special "Scotch-lite" target, surfaced with tiny reflecting glass beads, like a Daylite movie screen. We have tried the pistol at 50 feet and have found that it gives a good spot of light at that range. When using the Scotch-lite target, the light spot can even be seen on a bright, sunny day.



**Comparison of the full-size Nambu and the smaller 7mm. version**

The Lite-gun makes an excellent training aid, as the pupil can see exactly what a jerked trigger or a poor hold will do. The instructor at the same time can quickly see if the pupil has absorbed instructions. The fact that a jerked trigger may throw the shot off more than an unsteady hold is made very obvious with the Lite-gun, and this is usually a hard point to get across.

Vought is making some guns at the present time but is still ironing out production problems. He expects to have production capacity enough to fill orders soon.—E. B.

## THE "BABY" NAMBU

"There is so much discussion by pistol collectors over the 'Baby' Nambu pistol that I thought the accompanying comparison figures and photos might be of interest to your readers.

"The top picture shows the 7 mm. Nambu, and the other picture is a comparison of the original 8 mm. Nambu of the 1914 pattern with the small, dainty 7 mm. version, which, as can be plainly seen, is only the large one scaled down.

**The 7mm. "baby" Nambu looks like its big brother in 8mm. caliber**

"It was designed largely for high command Japs who didn't want to tote a bigger pistol, but with its .276 caliber and 56 grain bullet it is obviously more of a fancy collector's specimen than a good service pistol. It is, however, one of *the* collector's items. Detailed data concerning this rare weapon can be found in a well-presented booklet, *The Baby Nambu,* by Roger Marsh of Hudson, Ohio.

"*Comparative Data*

| *Name* | *Wt. Empty* | *Length* | *Bullet Wt.* | *M.V.* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 mm. Nambu.. | 31 oz. | 9-1/16" | 102 gr. | 950 f.s. |
| 7 mm. Nambu.. | 23 oz. | 6-3/4" | 56 gr. | 800 f.s." |

—G. B. Jarrett, Lt. Col. Ordnance, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

**Answer:** Many thanks for the photographs and information on the Baby Nambu. I was fortunate enough to secure one of these guns, and it is a beautiful little weapon.—J. S. H.

## ADDITION TO NRA MUSEUM

Capt. Melvin M. Johnson, USMC Reserve, the designer of the semiautomatic rifle and light machine gun which bear his name, has generously presented the National Rifle Association with a Johnson automatic rifle and a Johnson light machine gun for its arms collection. These two famous weapons serve to round out an already extensive series of military auto rifles and machine guns now awaiting installation in a permanent NRA museum of firearms.

## CONVENIENT 8 MM. CONVERSION

"The barrel of my 8 mm. Mauser was in such perfect shape it seemed a shame to discard it, considering the cost of new custom barrels. I boxed this rifle up and shipped it to Vernon Gipson of Palos Park, Illinois, and asked him to check the action throughout and to rechamber the barrel for his 8 mm. '06. This is merely the standard .30-'06 case with the neck opened up for the 8 mm. At the same time I ordered a set of loading dies for the same from Pacific, and a Hensley and Gibbs mold for the 8 mm. 200 grain, gas-check bullet.

"After return of the rifle from Gipson, and while waiting for receipt of the loading accessories, I stocked it nicely from a wild cherry blank.

"After some preliminary jockeying I settled on 20 grains of Hercules 2400 behind the 200 grain gas-check bullet and No. 120 primers. The results were very satisfactory, 5 shots grouping around 1½ to 2 inches at 100 yards.

"With the 170 grain jacketed 8 mm. bullet now becoming available, this rifle should, with say 4320 or 4064 powder, do anything the '06 will and more. It is a nice-handling sporter weighing 8¼ pounds as stocked, and should make anyone a real hunting rifle, easy to carry, accurate for big game and with '06 cases as plentiful as they are, that solves the ammunition problem very nicely."—D. W. JENSEN, Chadron, Nebraska.

### ENFIELD BARREL ON MAUSER

"I note in the August RIFLEMAN the statement that Springfield and Enfield barrels cannot be fitted to a Mauser action without cutting off the threaded section, rethreading, and rechambering. In the case of the Enfield barrel I invite your attention to the fact that it can be fitted to the Mauser '98 action by altering the threads.

"Using an appropriate V-thread tool, set the lathe at 12 threads to the inch, set the tool at the middle thread of the barrel and start cutting. The tool will cut off the rear edges of the rear threads and the front edges of the front threads. When you have finished you have V-threads on your Enfield barrel—12 to the inch. One of the original square threads in the middle will be almost completely removed but this does not prevent getting a fit that will stand continued use.

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Improved Neck Cut-off Tool—Regular Case Trimmer — Trimmer - Cut - off Combination — Improved Super Case Trimmer — Primer Pocket Reamer—F. A. Crimp Remover (used before De-capping, NEW)—Reamer & Crimp Remover Comb.

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OUTING EQUIPMENT

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Marble's Coat Compass —Fastens to coat or sleeve. Guaranteed accurate. No. 182, stationary dial, $1.50. No. 082, revolving dial, $1.75.

Ask your Dealer for these Marble's Items

Marble Arms & Mfg. Co. 502 Delta Ave. Gladstone, Mich., U.S.A. (A-217)

"Watch your head space when doing this job. The front sight may not be standing up on top when you have the head space right, but it can be shifted and a better front sight is in order anyway. On the one I fitted, the front sight was just right but this was probably just luck. Any good gunsmith should be able to do this job—I did it and I am not a good gunsmith. I'm just an amateur gunsmith and a carpenter by trade.

"With thousands of Mausers floating around and Enfield barrels selling at four bucks, there is a great temptation to hook them together, and it can be done.—L. C. JACKSON, Memphis, Tenn.

**Answer:** Your dope on Enfield barrels is very interesting. You must have taken some metal off of the top of the V-thread as the Enfield barrel extension is 1.118 inches in diameter while that of the Mauser is 1.100 inches.

I can see how it is possible to correct for too much head space after the new threads are cut, but I fail to see how you could correct for too little head space.

We haven't tried fitting an Enfield barrel to a Mauser, but recently we received another letter from an individual who accomplished this in much the same manner as you have described. It sounds like an excellent idea as long as the correct head space can be obtained. —A. H. B.

### SHOT SHELL RELOADING

"I have been attempting to reload some 12 gauge shotgun shells with an Ideal Straight Line hand loader and some components which a friend gave me. The powder I am using is Hercules Red Dot. I started with a charge of 25 grains but obtained poor uniformity in performance and pattern. The charge I am now using is 29 grains and the performance seems better but the patterns are still poor. This powder is about six years old. Do you think it is going bad?"—J. S. SIMPSON, Galveston, Texas.

**Answer:** Providing your powder was not stored in an extremely damp place, or had something like kerosene spilled in it, there should be nothing wrong with it. I suspect that when handloading, you are not putting enough pressure on your card wad which goes over the powder. This is one of the most important factors in loading shotgun shells, because it has a direct bearing on how your powder burns and the resulting chamber pressure. I suggest that you put about 50 pounds pressure on your over-powder wad. Your reloader doesn't give you much control over this pressure, so set the tool on an ordinary scale when you put the pressure on the wad. You can thereby measure your pressure. One caution, however. Drop that charge down to 25 grains again before applying more pressure to the powder wad. You may get high pressures if you don't. The 25 grains should give you the equivalent of about a 3-dram load with No. 7½ or 8 shot.

Your felt wads or equivalent between the card wad and your shot should not be less than about .4 inch thick. Also, if you do not have an Ideal Handbook I would suggest that you order one from the Lyman Gun Sight Corporation, Middlefield, Connecticut. This book has many fine suggestions on loading shotgun shells.—E. B

Announcing:—
THE GUNSMITH'S MANUAL
*by Stelle & Harrison*

Being a reprint of this early classic (published in 1882), which for decades was THE standby and authority amongst professional gunsmiths of America.

A 396 page book of detailed instruction for gunsmiths, mainly relating to the methods employed in the making, stocking and repairing of muzzle loading firearms, both flint and cap lock. Replete with drawings of the special tools necessary to carry out the work of boring, rifling, restocking, blueing, finishing, replacement of nipples and tubes, making and positioning gun hammers, making of gun screws, springs, bolts, thimbles, escutcheons and ramrods; in fact, everything needed by the early gunsmiths, plus instruction for the making of the tools to do the job with. Considerable data is included regarding the early American breech loaders, with instructions for dismounting and assembly.

Here is a book which every muzzle loading fan should have, as it was the Shooter's Bible back in the heyday of the muzzle loader. Price $4.00.

THOMAS G. SAMWORTH
Plantersville South Carolina

### U. S. RIFLE, CAL. .30 M1903, MARK I

"Please let me know if the rifle which I have has an action of the same material as those Springfields numbered below 800,000. It is a U. S. Springfield, Model 1903 A-1, Serial No. 1,070,688. On the receiver by the serial number are the words, "Mark I," and the rifle has a ventilator 1-5/16 x 5/16 inch cut in the left side of the receiver, to strengthen the action, as the gunsmiths say when they put in a bushing to cover up a botch job.

"The price, $52.00 plus packing and tax, led me to believe that I was getting a nickel-steel action."—H. L. DYER, Richmond, Texas.

**Answer:** The Springfield rifle you have has the improved double heat-treatment and is the strongest type of Springfield ever made. Curiously enough, however, you have received one of the rare Mark I Springfields, which are not usually sold to civilian marksmen. They are absolutely as strong as any Springfield and I like them better than the latest nickel-steel ones, but they do have in the side the ejection port for the Pedersen device, which was the top-secret weapon we had up our sleeves in World War I and which was never used because the War ended too soon.

The Pedersen device was an automatic bolt, fitting in place of the regular Springfield bolt and having an auxiliary chamber rifled with 11 lands and 11 grooves and adapted to enable the weapon to deliver a rapid, semi-automatic fire with a high-powered .30 caliber pistol cartridge fed from a 40-shot magazine.—J. S. H.

### FRANGIBLE TOP WADS FOR SHOT SHELLS

We have been doing some shooting with the Federal Cartridge Co.'s "Hi-Power" and "Monark" shotgun shells made with the new "frangible" top wad. This is a development intended to improve the uniformity of pattern and velocity. When a shot shell is fired, the charge reaches the muzzle in the form of an almost solid slug of pellets with the top wad in front. When the charge leaves the gun the top wad is supposed to get out of the way, but often it may fail to do so and remain right in front of the charge. The air resistance on this wad is extremely high and one theory has been that this may cause some of the individual pellets to fly out at an angle, resulting in a blown pattern or doughnut effect. To eliminate any possibility of top wad interference, the Federal Cartridge Co. has developed a top wad that is strong, yet extremely brittle, so that it shatters into small pieces and thus gets out of the way of the charge. These frangible wads are thoroughly waterproof—even after soaking in water for days, they will snap like glass when pressed between thumb and finger.—J. S. H.

### LOVELL OR BEE?

"I have a 2-R Lovell and have been considering converting it to a .218 Mashburn Bee. Kindly advise me if it will be necessary to rebarrel to effect this conversion or if my present barrel can be rechambered for the Mashburn case."—F. J. Murphy, Helena, Montana.

**Answer:** Your present 2-R Lovell could be rechambered for the Mashburn Bee only by cutting off the barrel extension and setting it back one or two turns to compensate for the shorter Mashburn-Bee case. Although I like the Mashburn-Bee very well, I feel that you would be making a mistake in making this conversion. You would have the conversion cost with no assured gain in accuracy or performance.

The Mashburn-Bee has a stronger case which is more readily available than the 2-R Lovell. There is one more advantage to the Mashburn-Bee and that is that the use of factory ammunition in this chamber is possible. If you did not already have the 2-R Lovell I would recommend the Mashburn-Bee.—A. H. B.

### CHILLED OR DROP SHOT?

"What is the difference between chilled shot and drop shot, and is there any advantage in one over the other? I will admit that my question is rather academic at the present time because I doubt that I can find shotgun shells loaded with any kind of shot. Nevertheless, I haven't given up hope and I am still interested.—R. D. Sanson, Cleveland, Ohio.

**Answer:** Chilled shot is harder than drop shot because it has a small percentage of antimony added to it. Drop shot is usually made of pure lead (allowing for small percentages of certain impurities). Sometimes, however, a small amount of arsenic is added to this lead to facilitate the formation of spheres from the drops of lead as they fall.

Aside from composition of the lead, both types of shot are made in the same way, by dropping them through the air in a tower where they are recovered in water and screened for size.

Since antimony is lighter than lead, chilled shot is lighter than drop shot. For example, there are 345 No. 7½ chilled shot per ounce as compared with 338 No. 7½ drop shot per ounce.

Because of this difference in weight, some hunters have reasoned that drop shot has greater killing power. This would be true for a given muzzle velocity if it were not for certain factors which more than compensate for this weight difference. For one thing, the drop or soft shot is deformed more than the chilled shot in moving through the bore. Deformed shot offer more resistance to the air and consequently their remaining velocity at the killing ranges will be less rather than greater than the chilled or hard shot.

It follows that chilled shot is going to give you greater penetration and on top of this, you have a few more pellets. Another advantage of chilled shot is that there is less chance of leading in your barrel. It all adds up to a choice of chilled shot. In view of these obvious advantages, the ammunition companies have recently standardized on hard shot and do not even list soft shot in their latest catalogue or handbook.—E. B.

### 30-'06 ON DEER

"I am writing to ask your opinion on what I believe is an inconsistency in sporting literature. Writers seem to be in agreement that the old, large-caliber rifles, shooting heavy and slow bullets, are still good arms for Eastern whitetail hunting in that the large slugs will plow through brush well and cause a knockdown, if not a kill, even if relatively poorly placed.

"These same authors, when discussing different loads for the .30-'06, state that the 150 grain bullet is one of the best for deer and that the 180 grain bullet is the best all-around load for deer and larger game, men-

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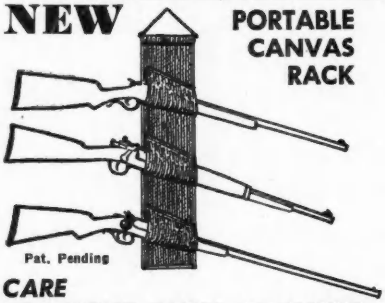

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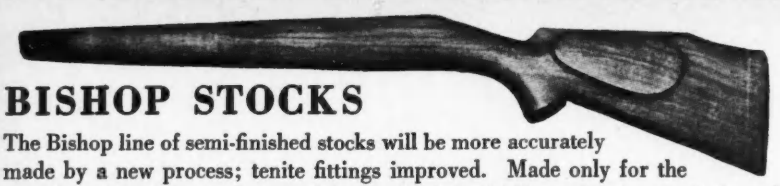

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**SPEER** .22 caliber 45 grain pointed soft point bullets. .224" only. $2.25 per 100 postpaid. We expect to have the Speer 7 mm., .270 and 8 mm. bullets in December.

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**"SLICK TRIGGERS"**
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For Enfields, Springfields, Mausers, Rem. 30S, Win. M54. No slack, no creep; three to four pound trigger pull; the Enfield bolt to cock on upstroke included. Price $10.00. Ship complete action for four-day service. Also specializing in custom rebarreling for .220 Swift, .257 Roberts, Win. .270, 30-06, 300 Mag., test fired, proof fired; seven-day service. Write to

**M. L. SMITH**
Route #3 Bryan, Texas

tioning the 220 and 225 grain bullets only as moose and large bear loads. I should imagine that if a slow, heavy bullet can be recommended for other rifles, the 220 or 225 grain bullets of the .30-'06 loaded to give a 2,400-feet-per-second muzzle velocity would be the load of choice for this rifle for short range, brush-crashing shooting.

"What is your opinion of the 220 grain load for my next fall's trip to Maine?"—DR. R. J. ACKART, Carney's Point, N. J.

**Answer:** Your analysis of the situation is very logical. The 220 grain .30-'06 bullet is certainly capable of pushing aside a lot of brush in order to get at the game. And after the slug arrives, even after plowing through the brush, it is adequate for deer.

One writer claims in his book that the 180 grain bullet in the .30-'06 is too much for deer. As you have found in your reading, however, he also indicates that the large, slow slugs such as are delivered by the .38-55 Winchester and the .44-40 are fine brush crashers and deer loads.

I do not think you are at all out of line in planning to use a 220 or 225 grain bullet on your next fall's trip to Maine. I suggest that you try to obtain some soft-point bullets with the large lead exposure. I have seen a lot of meat tests made with these bullets. They will open up satisfactorily and the meat spoilage will not be excessive.—E. B.

## GUNSMITH TRADE DOPE

**Belding and Mull** reloading tools are back again. H. S. Harper of B & M informs us that because of a great demand there may not be sufficient quantities of these tools available for immediate deliveries, however. The present indications are that some of the most popular calibers, such as the 2-R Lovell, .22 Hornet, .22-250, and .220 Swift will be the first ones available. For revised price lists write B & M, P. O. Box 423, Phillipsburg, Pa.

**M. L. Smith,** Route 3, Bryan, Texas, writes that he is now getting back into the gunsmithing business after finishing his war service as a Lt. Col. in the European theatre. He is building an air-conditioned shop on his ranch where he will do general conversion work.

**Rust Inhibiting Products** of Chicago, has announced that after October 1 of this year they will be known as the RIG PRODUCTS COMPANY with factory and office at 502 Franklin St., Oregon, Illinois. From what we have heard they have a nice setup.

**The H & M Tool Company,** 25608 Pickford Road, Detroit 19, Michigan, announces that head-space gauges for .22 rim-fire chambers are available at a reasonable price. The samples we have are marked "Go" and "No Go," and measure .0441 and .0467 respectively.

**Mel Howard** of Brookline and Falmouth, Mass. announces the opening of a new store, "Guns Incorporated," at Falmouth, catering to both gun collectors and shooters. He writes that he also offers a gunsmithing service for the restoration of antique arms, plus rebluing and browning.

**J. A. Wingert,** 124 West Second St., Waynesboro, Pa., writes that he is now operating a shop devoted entirely to custom bluing, featuring prompt delivery and careful workmanship.

# THE ARMS CHEST

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

**1. Transactions Based on Good Faith:** ARMS CHEST transactions are based on good faith and mutual satisfaction. Deliberate misrepresentation, disregard of usual business ethics or the attempt to circumvent these general requirements, when brought to our attention, will result in refusal of further advertising and might result in disbarment from the NRA in the case of members.

**2. All Orders Subject to These Conditions:** WE reserve the right to edit all copy to conform with our standards and to reject or discontinue any advertisement which we consider undesirable.

**3. Who May Advertise:** The ARMS CHEST is an open market trading post. Any individual or firm whose advertisement and methods of doing business meet our requirements may advertise their goods or services.

**4. Rates:** All advertisements must be accompanied by remittance. The rate is 15 cents per word including name and address—minimum charge $2.00.

**5. Definite Prices Must Be Stated:** A specific price must be stated on all items offered in FOR SALE and SELL or TRADE ads—except that the phrase "write for catalog" may be used when listing merchandise in quantities.

**6. Blind Ads Not Acceptable:** Box number or blind ads will not be accepted. Give your complete name and address, to insure prompt delivery of all mail or telegraph replies.

**7. Firearms for Sale or Trade Must Be Defined:** The *condition* of every gun (including essential parts) advertised for sale or trade, *must* be specified according to *NRA standards,* as follows: PERFECT—meaning factory condition; EXCELLENT—meaning new condition, implying negligible amount of use; VERY GOOD—meaning practically new condition, implying little use, with no appreciable bore wear and only minor surface scratches or wear; GOOD—meaning moderate use with some finish worn off, only moderate bore wear, with no pits and nothing worse than a little roughness in the bore; FAIR—meaning no parts missing necessary to use of gun, reasonable wear inside and out, nothing worse than minor pits in steel or stock, gun sufficiently accurate for hunting. POOR—meaning marred appearance and pitted or badly worn bore.

**8. Non-Specific Phrases Barred:** Phrases such as "highest" or "top prices paid," as well as any other so-called "auction-type" phrases are not acceptable. The terms "fair price paid" or "state price wanted" may be used.

**9. "Outlawed" Firearms Defined:** The sale of certain firearms is outlawed by Federal law unless handled by a Federally licensed dealer. These include machine or submachine guns; sawed-off rifles and shotguns with barrels of less than 18" and Mauser and Luger auto pistols *with holster stocks.*

**10. Requesting Privilege of Examination:** We *insist* that purchasers desirous of examining merchandise before acceptance request shipment by express C. O. D. with examination privilege. This procedure permits the purchaser to inspect the merchandise *in local express office* and authorizes the express company to return unsatisfactory merchandise at shipper's expense.

**11. How to Count Numerals, Etc.:** Groups of figures are counted as one word (example: .30-30, 250-3000, $150.00, $1.50).(Abbreviations consisting of initials or single characters likewise are counted as one word (example: W. H. Smith; H. B., meaning heavy barrel; HP., meaning highpower). Hyphenated words are counted as two words (examples: 20-gauge, pearl-handled, no-slip).

**12. Responsibility for Illegible Copy:** Type or print advertisements plainly, as we can not by responsible for errors due to illegible writing.

**13. Closing date:** All advertisements must be received by not later than the 1st of the month preceding date of issue. (Example: the 1st of November for the December issue. Ads *received* after the 1st of November, *and not later than the 1st of December* will be inserted in the January issue.)

## FOR SALE

NEW LIST OF MUZZLE LOADING RIFLES. Also cap and ball revolvers for shooting. 3¢ stamp please. Kimball Arms Company, Woburn, Mass. tf

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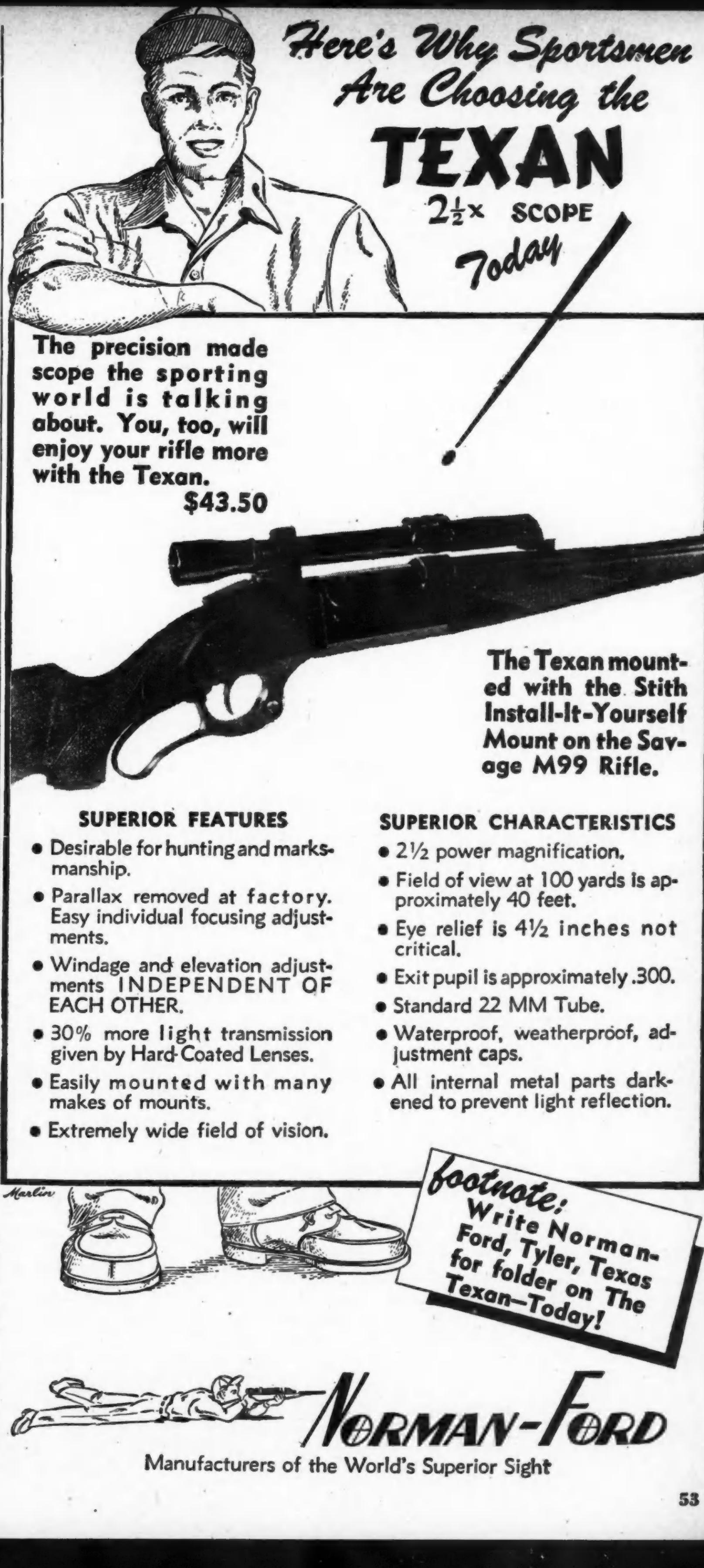

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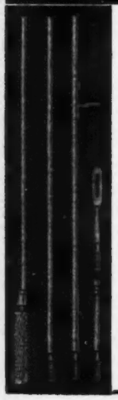

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7MM. MAUSER 98 DOUBLE SET TRIGGERS, ramp front, leaf rear, barrel and action very good, stock marred fifteen cartridges, $85.00. Want 16ga. 37S Ithaca. Ernest Kozisek, College Apt. 73, Grand Island, Nebr.

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MODEL 70, .22 HORNET, STITH MOUNTED Weaver 330 perfect $150.00. Winchester M12, 20 gauge skeet perfect $75.00. P.38 fair, extra barrel shoulder holster $50.00. 6.5mm. Krag type German action 30" barrel, good $30.00. Binoculars Dienstglas 10 x 50 with case, good $100.00. Haenel Aydt Schuetzen, poor, action falling block, set triggers, good $30.00. James Abraham, 1577 30th Ave., Moline, Ill.

EXCELLENT HI-STANDARD HD 6¾ EXTRA grips, holster, $55.00. S&W 32-20 M&P 5" with holster v.g. $40.00. Want 25 or 32 automatic, will pay $25.00 for Luger. A. W. Goris, 675 McKinley, Gary, Indiana.

SELLING OUT MY COLLECTION OF COLT Frontier models, write for list. Pete Grano, 3100 West 44th Street, Chicago 32, Illinois.

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VERY GOOD POWDER HORN AND BAG, $25.00. Parker 12 gauge hammer B.L. shotgun early model good $30.00. 12 gauge muzzleloader shotgun good $20.00. J. G. Dillin, Media, Penna.

B&L PRISMATIC, EXCELLENT, $60.00. Winchester 12-12, Weaver choke, Beavertail, perfect $85.00. Ithaca M37's-16 modified, perfect $95.00. Walther PPK, perfect in, good out, $40.00. Parts for P.38, PP Walthers. William Kirkpatrick, 1178 Fillmore, Topeka, Kansas.

30-06 SPRINGFIELD SPORTERS, NICKEL steel receivers, Lyman 48 sights, Government sporter stocks, new condition $85.00. Service rifles, high number receivers, new condition, $50.00. John P. Gschwind, 4124 No. Leamington Avenue, Chicago 41, Illinois.

LARGE COLLECTION OF AMERICAN AND European Antique Arms. Send 25¢ in coin for our 14th edition catalog featuring the Brown collection of Kentucky rifles. We buy whole collections or single pieces. Fair prices paid. Kimball Arms Company, Woburn, Mass. tf

NEW CHRONOGRAPH, TACHOMETER SCALE, 30 min. elapsed time dial, $54.50. Myron Bohlen, Box 266, Clear Lake, Iowa.

16 GA. BROWNING AUTO, EXCELLENT, SPEcial steel barrel, Poly Choke ventilated rib, barrel 25" over all, 3 shot. First check for $145.00 or will ship C.O.D. subject to examination. F. H. Rimer, Dr. 7026 Jenkins Arcade, Pittsburgh 22, Penna.

CARTRIDGES FOR COLLECTORS. GUN BOOKS. Handbook & catalog 15¢. McDaneld & Wheeler, Osborne, Kansas.

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WINCHESTER LEVER ACTION MASHBURN Bee, high stock Mashburn mount for Weaver, very good, 119-.218 Bee cartridges, $85.00. D. N. Hensinger, Fountain Inn, New Castle, Penna.

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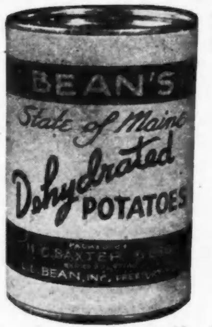

Are the finest Maine Potatoes and are the same as used in making dehydrated potatoes under strict Government regulations. These are a great advantage over bulky bag potatoes for Hunters and Campers. Potatoes may be put to soak when you leave in the morning, and after cooking ten minutes at night are ready to eat. Prices: 4 oz. waterproof can (4 servings) 18¢ postpaid. 8 oz. box, 30¢; 1 lb. sealed box, 58¢ postpaid. 4 lb. pail, $2.28 postpaid. Write for free sample—2 servings.

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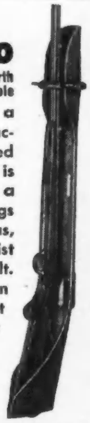
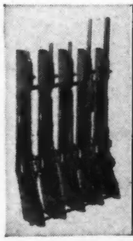


Here is an opportunity to get a genuine Army gun rack at a fraction of its original cost. Designed scientifically so that the gun is held firmly and protected in a steel shell by means of springs padded with leather and canvas, and instantly released by a twist of a rubber covered locking bolt. There is sufficient clearance for an attached scope, if desired. Set them up in a series as a sturdy rack for your guns, or mount one in your car as the army did. The quantity is limited, so be sure to order yours now!



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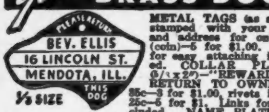

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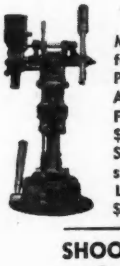

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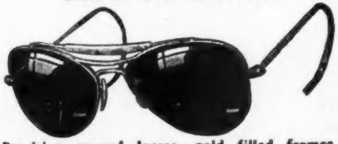

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| Shuron's Sunrex, rimless, large | 12.75 |
| Shuron's Sunrex, rimless, ladies | 12.75 |
| A. O. Calobar, large, with bar | 9.50 |

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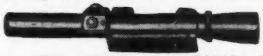

Weaver K2.5, $38.50; K-4, $44.00; Stith-Weaver S-4, $44.00; Alaskan, $50. Dot reticules extra. King-Pike, Stith, G & H, and Redfield mounts. Every available scope, mount, and metallic sight in stock.

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This lot is black, brass corners, same old reliable kit found on every target range everywhere (plus postage, on 10 lbs.) .......$10.85

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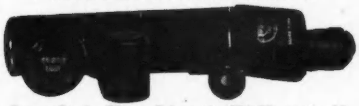

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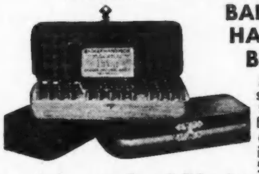

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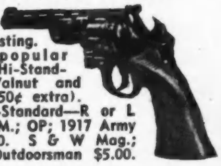

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**17.50**
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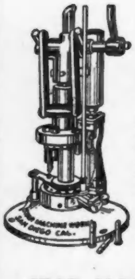
# THE ★ LEADER



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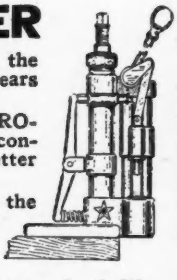

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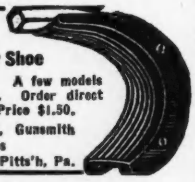

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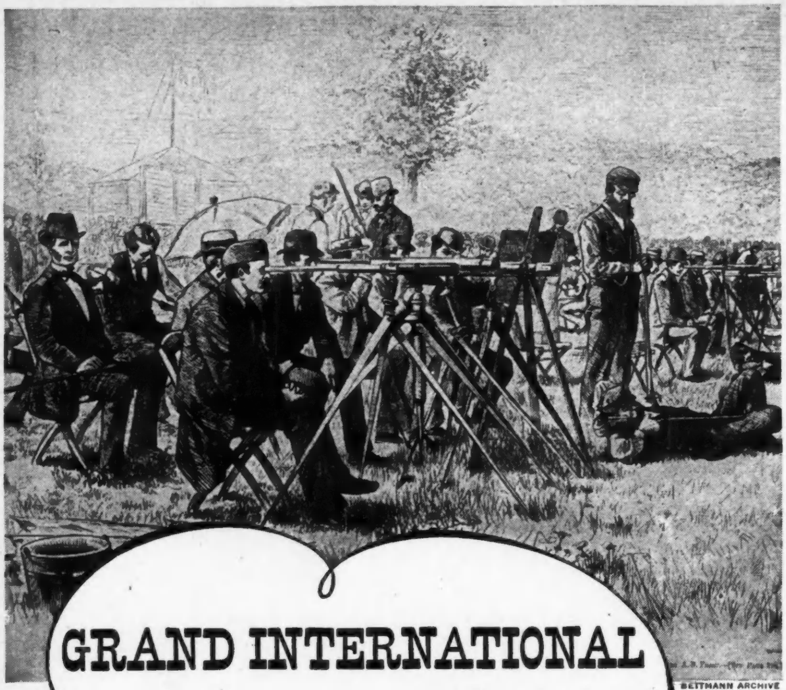

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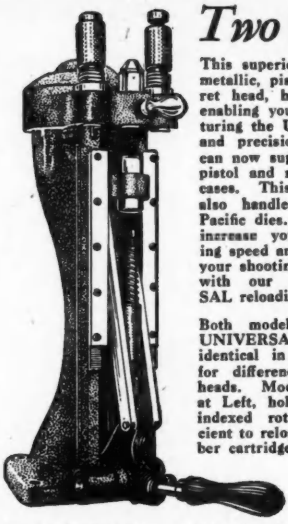
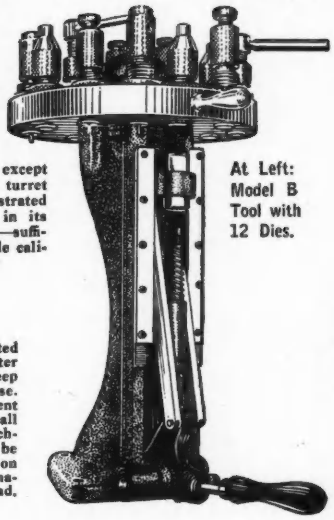


**This superior tool is built to hand load any standard, center-fire, metallic, pistol or rifle cartridge with ease and accuracy. Its turret head, holding multiple dies, speeds up the loading process, enabling you to load more cartridges per hour. We are manufacturing the UNIVERSAL tool in quantity. Its strength, simplicity and precision will satisfy the most discriminating shooter. We can now supply dies for practically all of the standard calibers of pistol and rifle ammunition, including dies for C.C.C. chambered cases. This tool will also handle the fine Pacific dies. You can increase your reloading speed and improve your shooting accuracy with our UNIVERSAL reloading tool.**

**Both models of the UNIVERSAL tool are identical in all parts except for difference in the turret heads. Model A, illustrated at Left, holds 3 dies in its indexed rotating head—sufficient to reload any single caliber cartridge.**



At Left: Model B Tool with 12 Dies.

**The Model B, Universal Reloading Tool, illustrated at Right, answers the need for the advanced shooter who owns guns of several calibers and wishes to keep his equipment set up and handy for immediate use. The indexed rotating head holds 12 dies, sufficient to reload 4 or more sizes of cartridge. At most, all that is necessary to change on the tool when switching from reloading of one caliber to another, might be the primer rod, the shell holder and the setting on the powder measure. All other dies remain permanently adjusted in the rotating, indexed, turret head. The UNIVERSAL Reloading Tool has been on the market for more than 10 years and has been used with satisfaction in all parts of the world. These tools are covered by patent and are warranted to satisfy under a money-back guaranty.**

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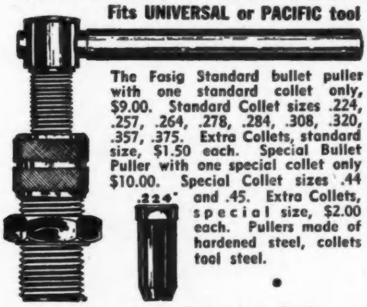
### Fits UNIVERSAL or PACIFIC tool



The Fasig Standard bullet puller with one standard collet only, $9.00. Standard Collet sizes .224, .257, .264, .278, .284, .308, .320, .357, .375. Extra Collets, standard size, $1.50 each. Special Bullet Puller with one special collet only $10.00. Special Collet sizes .44 and .45. Extra Collets, special size, $2.00 each. Pullers made of hardened steel, collets tool steel.

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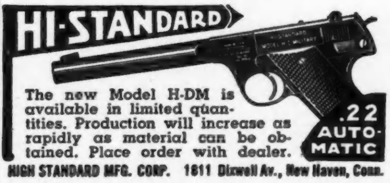

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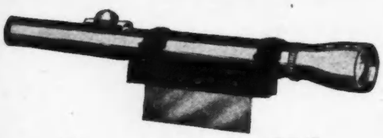

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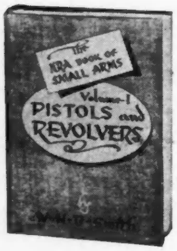

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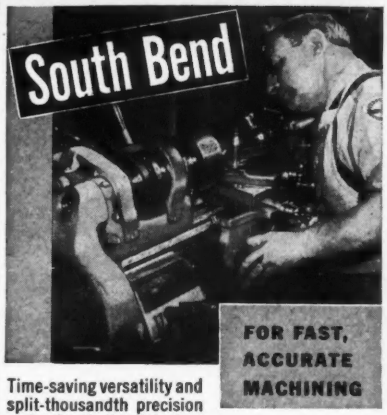

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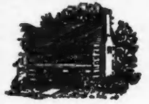

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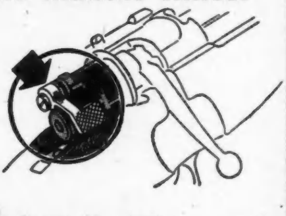

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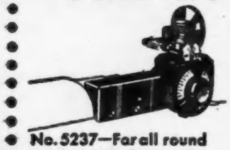
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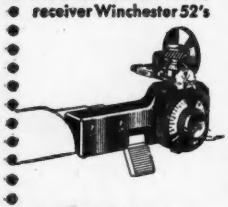
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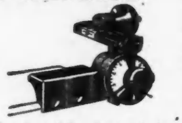
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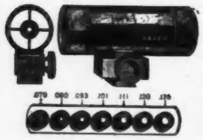
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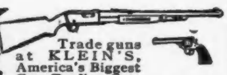

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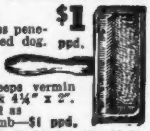

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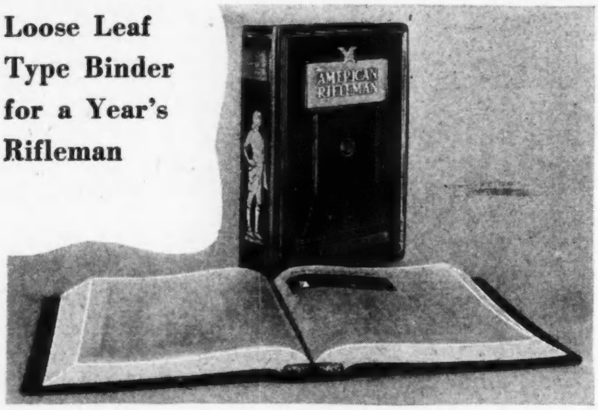

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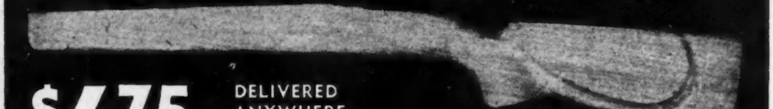

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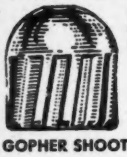

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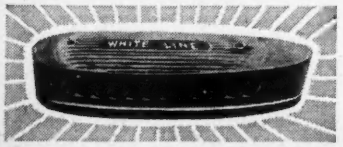

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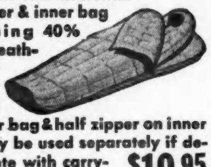

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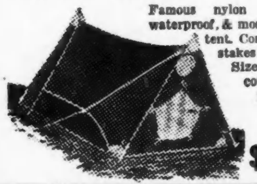

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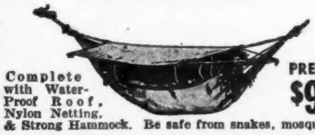

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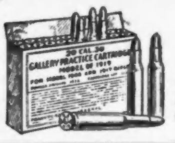

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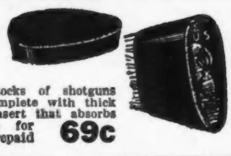

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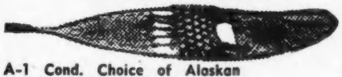

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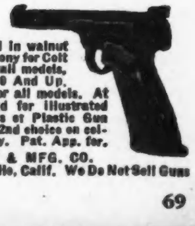

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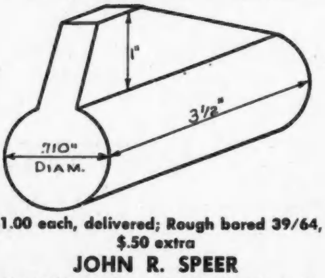

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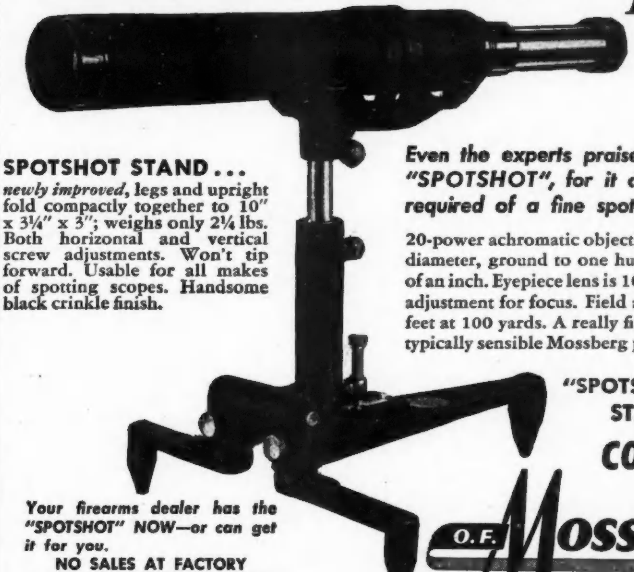

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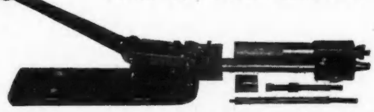

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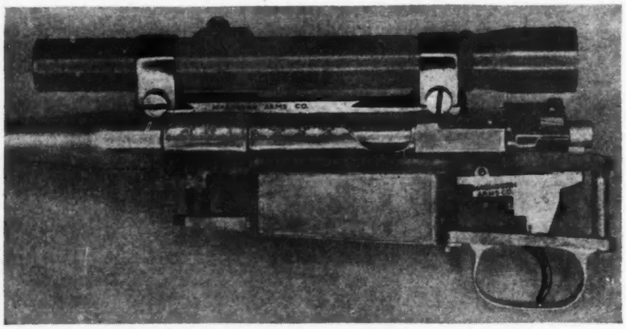

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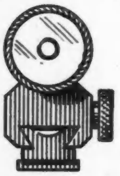

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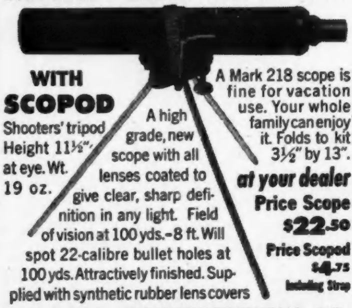

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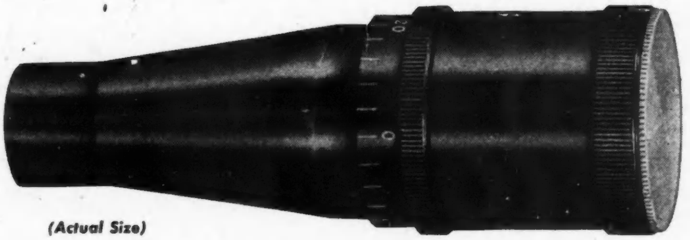

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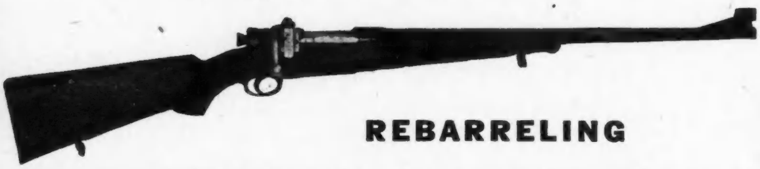

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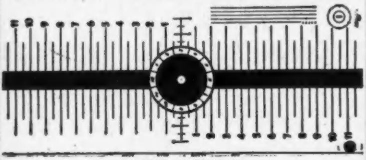

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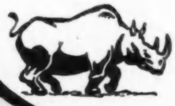

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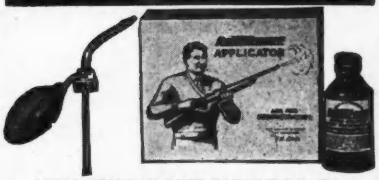

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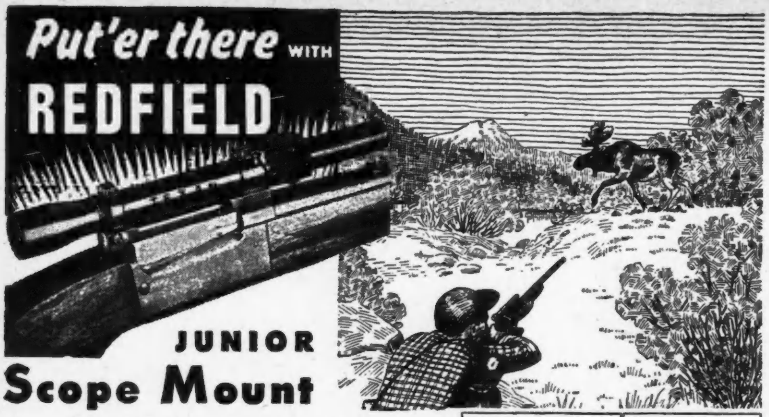

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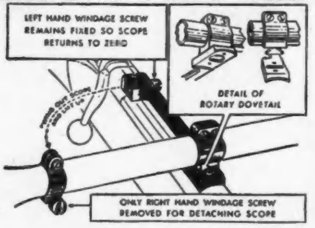
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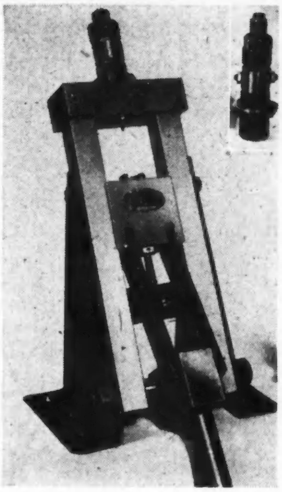

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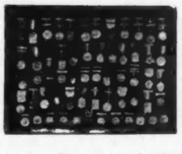

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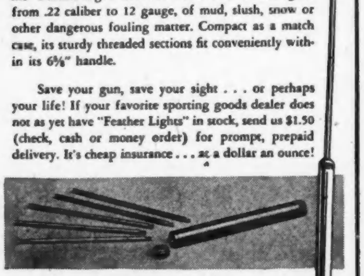

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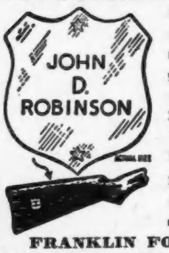

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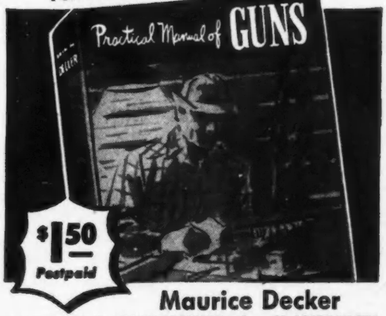

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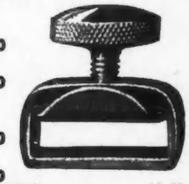

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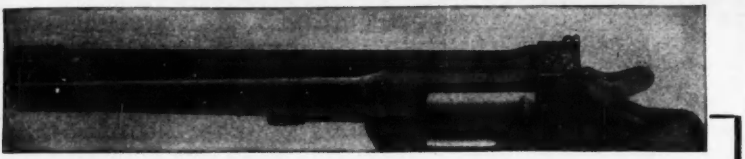

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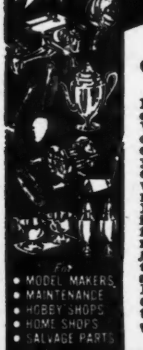

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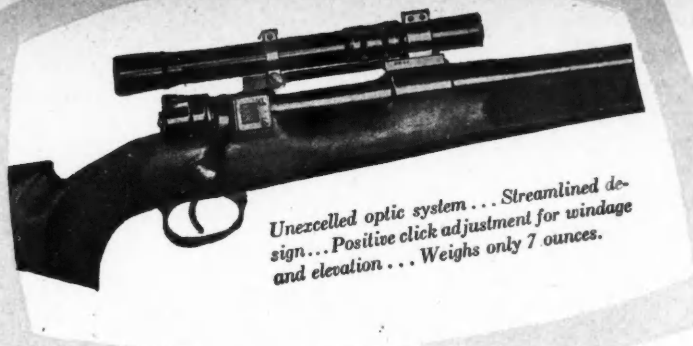

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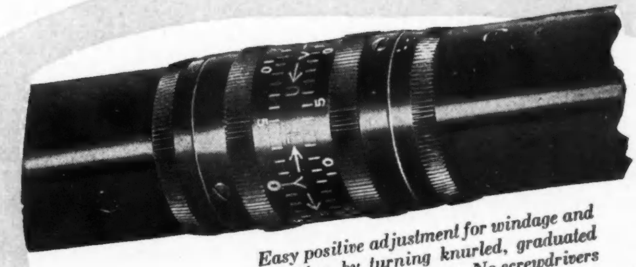

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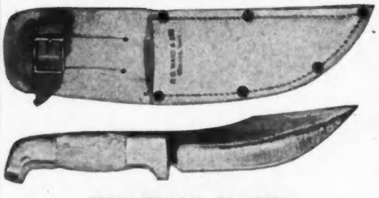

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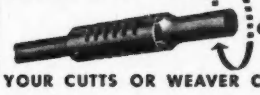

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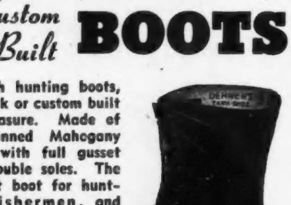

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**A custom sporter from your Enfield, Mauser, or Springfield for only $45.00**

***How? Very simple!***

Mail us with remittance your barrel and action and we will do this:

1. The Enfield barrel will be cut to 22 or 24 inches (round); muzzle crowned and polished; rear military sight milled off, refinished and polished.
2. Front ramp sight fitted, with hood.
3. First class rebluing of barrel and receiver.
4. Supplying and fitting Redfield Receiver Sight Series 102. (Peep sight installed unless otherwise specified.)
5. Supplying and working 90% of the way a selected walnut sporter stock to your barrel and action. This stock is worked to a point where little or no difficulty is required in shaping it up to your exact satisfaction in a short time.
6. We send you expert instructions showing you in two simple steps the completion of the job.
7. You receive free a container of our stock compound.

A custom sporter such as this would normally cost you at least $125.00. We are only able to give you so much for your money because of our unique system of operation which is based on quantity with quality and a small profit. Take advantage of this opportunity while it lasts.

OUR SHOP IS TOOLED AND SET UP TO HANDLE ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY. For ease in handling please make remittance in Postal M.O., Express M.O., Western Union M.O. or registered cash to

**THE SPORT SHOP** P. O. Box 430, Waterbury, Conn.

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**SHELDON**

**S-56 Precision Lathe**

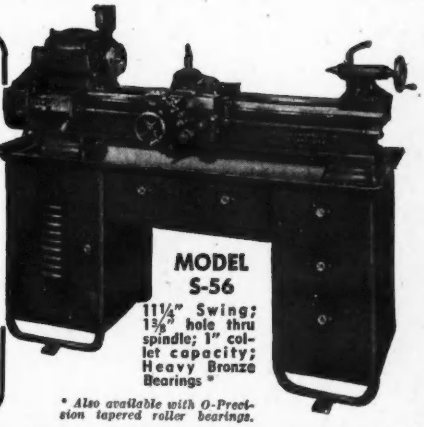
More gunsmiths have selected the "S-56" than any other model of the popular SHELDON Precision Lathes. They like everything about it—its extreme accuracy, extra capacity, 1⅜" hole all the way thru the spindle, the 56" bed that is "just right" for all barrels but the extremely long antiques

They like the 4-speed enclosed drive, full quick change gears, worm feed apron, modern steel bench with 5 independently locking drawers and moderate price.

If you're considering a lathe be sure to see the S-56 before you buy.

**SHELDON MACHINE CO., Inc.**

42 N. Knox Ave. Chicago 41, Ill.



**MODEL S-56**

11¼" Swing; 1⅜" hole thru spindle; 1" collet capacity; Heavy Bronze Bearings *

* *Also available with O-Precision tapered roller bearings.*

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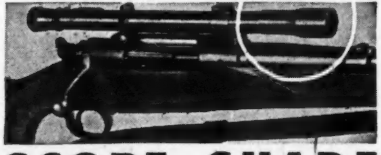
*You can't Hit 'em if you can't See 'em!*



**SCOPE-SHADE**

You get all-weather use of your scope with a Scope-Shade, as it protects the objective lens of your scope from sun, rain and snow.

Made of finest blued steel, a Scope-Shade improves the looks of your gun. Very easy to install. Absolutely no reduction in your field of vision. If not satisfied with Scope-Shade your money cheerfully refunded.

Scope-Shade is made in sizes to fit all scopes. All ¾" scopes, such as Weaver 330 and 440.. **$1.75** Lyman Alaskan and Weaver K2.5, $2.00. All others, custom made Sent postpaid with complete instructions. If your store cannot supply you, send check or money order direct to manufacturer.

**SCOPE-SHADE COMPANY, Metzger, Oregon**

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**SAECO TRU-SPEED PRECISION POWDER MEASURE**

| | |
|---|---|
| Adjustable Rifle Model | $12.50 |
| Adjustable Pistol Model | 12.50 |
| Extra Drum to combine above | 4.00 |
| Bench Stand | 3.25 |

*F.O.B. Pasadena, Calif.*

**SANTA ANITA ENGINEERING CO.**

2435 E. Colorado St., Pasadena 8, Calif.

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**NEW** TRIPLE-ACTION FOR TRIPLE PROTECTION!

Lubricates Gun Actions—Cleans, Prevents Rust

Home Use—Sports Use—Shop Use

*Hardware and Sports Dealers*

3-OZ. SPOUT CAN 40¢

**FIENDOIL**

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**FOR SALE: THIS SPACE-AT LOW COST**

A display ad of this size measures 14 agate lines or one inch. It costs $14.70 per issue if less than six insertions are used within one year; $13.30 per issue for six or more insertions in a year; only $11.90 per month for twelve consecutive insertions. THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN circulation is now well over 150,000 copies monthly. We will be glad to help you in writing "copy," making "lay-outs," etc. No charge for this "service," of course. What is your product?

# Learn to Shoot · Guns & Ammo

½ MILLION (500,000) rounds of assorted domestic and imported rifle and machine gun ammunition listed as follows: 6.5 m/m various types, 7.65 m/m Mauser, 7 m/m Mauser, 303 British, 7.5 m/m French, 7.62 Russian, 41 Italian Vetterli C.F. All these cartridges are military type with metal point bullet; no soft nose available. Sorry no Jap, Luger or 8 m/m Mauser ammo.

SMITH & WESSON BARRELS FOR MODEL 1917 ARMY REVOLVERS, 45 CALIBER, D.A., 5½", BRAND NEW, $7.50 EACH. Cylinders $4.50 each; Triggers $1.80 each. Hammers complete $3.00 each. Extractors $1.20 each. Thumb piece and nut 80¢. Main Spring $1.40. Hand $1.20. Also many others. Except for barrels and cylinders these parts will fit the 44 Special, 44/40 and 455 British Smith & Wesson revolvers. *(Send Stamp for complete list.)*

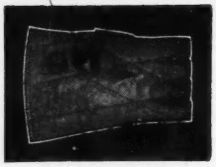
| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 303 British Cartridges, 174 gr. M.P., per 100.... | $7.50 | Crosman S.S. Air Rifle, .22 cal., & 1,000 pellets... | $22.30 |
| New Magazines, Colt Military 38 caliber......... | 1.75 | 7.62 m/m Russian Cartridges, metal point, per 100.. | 15.00 |
| New Magazines, Colt 32 Auto..................... | 1.40 | 7.65 m/m Mauser Cartridges, metal point, per 100. | 15.00 |
| New Barrels, Colt 38 Pocket Model............... | 5.95 | 7.5 m/m French Ctgs, MAB metal point, per 100.. | 15.00 |
| New Lyman Alaskan Scopes (no mounts)........... | 50.00 | New Magazines, Colt 45 Auto.................. | 1.65 |
| New Weaver Scope, K2.5, with hard coated lenses.. | 38.50 | New Magazines, Mauser 25 Auto................ | 2.75 |
| New Weaver K-4 with hard coated lenses.......... | 44.00 | New Magazines Model B, A, D & E Hi Standard.. | 1.75 |
| New Mossberg Model A, Spotshot Scopes. Each.... | 22.35 | New Magazines H & R Reising .22 Auto. Rifle... | 1.75 |

**Hudson Sporting Goods Co.** (No C. O. D. Orders) **R-52 Warren St. New York 7, N.Y.**

## 10-X RIFLEMEN'S COATS and GLOVES

● It is not our intention to mislead prospective buyers of 10-X products with empty promises of early delivery dates or to give the impression that dealers have an unlimited supply. Production is increasing, but 10-X is no exception to the present rule of critical shortages. Our dealers are on an equitable allotment basis, so see your dealer first. If he can't supply you, send us his name and address and keep in touch with him.

| | |
|---|---|
| 10-X Imperial Rifleman's Coat with leather covered pads | $13.00 |
| 10-X Aristocrat Rifleman's Coat with leather covered pads | 10.50 |
| 10-X Imperial Skeet and Trap Shooting Jacket ........... | 8.50 |



10-X RIFLEMAN'S

**GLOVE**

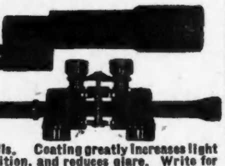
Correctly designed with the right pading in the right place. **$3.00**

**10-X MANUFACTURING COMPANY**

**305 Eleventh St.** **Des Moines 5, Iowa**

## HOT & COLD HARDCOAT

**For Your Optics**



Our new ELEC-TRONIC process permits hard-coating of SPUN - IN lenses without removal from cells. Coating greatly increases light transmission, definition, and reduces glare. Write for details. Have your rifle scope, spotting scope, binoculars and CAMERA optics improved 20% to 50%.

OPTICAL COATING LABORATORY

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## STRINE BULLET SIZER & LUBRICATOR

New improved model. Precision machined Meehanite casting. Bullet sized on down stroke, lubricated on up stroke. Hand-lapped dies. Clean base bullets. Tool complete for one bullet $22.00. Extra die and punch sets $5.00 each. Send for free illustrated circular.

**STRINE ARMS CO.**

**Cardington, Ohio**

## MARKSMEN ATTENTION!

You can now have a portable shooting gallery, engineered for safe use in your own home. Lightweight, durable receiver, easily transportable. Unconditionally guaranteed for use with small bore pistols and rifles. Fits N.R.A. targets. Write for free circular.

**ERGONLITE WELDING CORP.**

**WAUKESHA WISCONSIN**

## Shot Shell Wads

*Immediate delivery from stock at a generally reduced price.*

| | |
|---|---|
| ⅜" Special Fibre Wad (Felt type)...... | $3.50 |
| ¼" Special Fibre Wad (Felt type)...... | $2.50 |
| .135" Nitro Card for over powder...... | $1.50 |
| "B" Card Wad for over shot....... .. | $1.25 |

These wads are guaranteed the best obtainable and to give the utmost ballistic efficiency to hand loads or muzzle loaders.

**Alcan Paper Co.** **WOODRIVER, ILLINOIS**

LEATHER LENS COVERS FOR ANY SCOPE, regular $1.50; Stith mounted $1.75, at your dealer or prepaid by Hicks and Morris, 1011 Ivy Street, Hot Springs, New Mexico. tf

THE ORIGINAL SIGHT-EXCHANGE, BOX J, Paoli, Penna. Gun Sight Specialists. Mail us your old sight and tell us what you want. 2-47

60 POWER TELESCOPE, $2.95. 250 POWER microscope, $2.45. Also bargains in binoculars and surplus lens. Send for free catalog. Brownscope Company, 24 West 45th Street; New York. 6-47

ELBOW PRISMATIC TELESCOPE 12½ POWER cost government $200.00. Brand new, $35.00. Carl Zeiss 7 x 50 German Military binocular tinted lenses, excellent condition, individual focusing $175.00. Tank binocular—prismatic German military type, size 10 x 80, weight 25 lbs., glasses exceptional fine quality, can be used on boat or any place where they will be made stationary, value $750.00, price $175.00. Rifle telescopes Weaver 330 brand new $29.50. Forward money order. No C.O.D. shipments. Public Sport Shops, Dept. R-75, 13 So. 16th Street, Philadelphia, Penna.

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2 NEW, UNUSED WEAVER K4 SCOPES, coated, $44.00 each. H. G. Engelhardt, 1641 Olive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

CAMERAS FOR SALE — AERIAL, GERMAN hand camera, complete with case, filters and film. Also Jap aerial, machine type, 10¢ for picture and details. Edward Brown, 19 Winans Avenue, Newark, New Jersey.

$30.00 GOVERNMENT USED TELESCOPES, 20 power, made by prominent manufacturer, good condition, also Government binoculars with cases, special prices, send for list. Weil's Curiosity Shop, 12 Strawberry St., Philadelphia 6, Penna.

## GUNSMITH'S SERVICES & SUPPLIES

ANTIQUE ARMS REPAIRED AND SPRINGS made. Also do bluing and old style Browning. Moderate prices. Send work express prepaid. Kimball Arms Campany, Woburn, Mass. tf

A NEW STOCK FINISH BY BISHOP CONSISTing of one container for filling grain and one container of the finest oil finish, $1.10 per set postpaid. E. C. Bishop & Son, Warsaw, Missouri. tf

GENERAL GUNSMITHING: RESTOCKING, REbluing, gold, silver, chromium plating, we make parts for foreign and obsolete guns. Scaramuzzo, 601 South Halsted, Chicago 7. 3-47

I DUPLICATE ANY GUN OR RIFLE STOCK ready for fitting $5.00. Dave W. Thomas, Vineland, N. J. tf

ARTISTIC ENGRAVINGS ON FINE GUNS: Game scenes in relief; gold inlay; scroll work, etc. Folder on request. A. Griebel, 4724 No. Keystone Avenue, Chicago 30, Illinois. 7-47

BOOKS FOR THE ADVANCED OR BEGINNING Gunsmith: Elementary Gunsmithing by Frazer, $2.00; Advanced Gunsmithing by Vickery, $4.00; Modern Gunsmithing by Baker, $4.50; The Modern Gunsmith by Howe, $15.00; Firearms Bluing by Angier, $2.50. Gopher Shooters Supply, Faribault, Minnesota. tf

CHECKERING TOOLS, HANDMADE BY CHECKering expert. Set of three-checker, border and cleaner; also directions, complete $2.75 postpaid. Warner Products Co., Baldwinsville, N. Y. tf

CHRISTY GUN WORKS, 874 57TH STREET, Sacramento, California. tf

THE GUN RACK: REBLUING SPECIALISTS, stock refinishing, military conversions. Work guaranteed, prompt service, 441 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, California. tf

YOUR 99 SAVAGE ALTERED TO 300 CALIBER. Bluing, rebarreling. Bayer's Gun Shop, Walla Walla, Wash. tf

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CHAMBERING REAMERS, VISES, DIES, Wright ramps, other supplies. List. Wright's Gun and Tool Shop, Bloomsburg, Penna. tf

TO LOVERS OF FIREARMS AND THEIR ACcessories, old and new. You should belong to The Ohio Gun Collectors Association. Address: T. W. Brown, Secretary, 332 Second St., N. W., Canton, Ohio. tf

STAR BLUING SALTS—OUR PERFECTED product by America's original bluing firm, single tank—fool proof (use kitchen stove). Use indefinitely. Pistol size, $2.95; shotgun, $4.95; Gunsmiths, $11.95. Finishing oil, $1.45. Tanks, $3.95-$4.95. Precleaner $1.45, Derustant $2.95. Finest bluing, nickel, silver, gold plating. Gun Reblue, Fletcher 2, No. Car. 12-46

ASIATIC BUFFALO HORN RIFLE TIPS 2 FOR $3.00, per dozen $15.00. R. Vail, Warwick, N. Y. 12-46

FINEST GUN OIL MADE TO GOVERNMENT specification, $1.85 qt. $1.00 pt. Top grade gun grease 50¢ lb. shipped prepaid. Clevelands Sporting Goods, 144 Terrace, Redlands, California 12-46

RIFLE AND GUNSTOCK BLANKS IN FOLLOWing woods: American Walnut cut from crotch and stump figure. Circassian Walnut (mostly straight grain), Bird's Eye Maple, fancy mahogany. Extra fancy Oregon Myrtle, beautiful figure. Wholesaler, with sawmill supervision insuring right grain in grip, cheapest prices obtainable. Special inletting service to gunsmiths. D. W. Thomas, P. O. Box 184, Vineland, N. J. tf

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SPECIALIZING IN EXPERT REBLUING AND refinishing, scope and metallic sights mounted, all work guaranteed. Michael Kearns, Bucks Hill Road, Waterbury, Connecticut.

CUSTOM GUNSMITHING: SCOPE MOUNTING, bluing, repairing, bolt altering, custom stocking of rifles and shotguns, military rifle remodeling, barrel fitting, all work accepted from this time on can not be delivered until after the first of the year. W. H. English, 3445 California Avenue, Seattle 6, Washington.

YOUR MAUSER CONVERTED TO .270 OR 30-06, custom stocking, bluing and gunsmithing done expertly and reasonably. Ben's Gun Shop, Port Matilda, Penna.

PAUL MACK GUNMAKER—MAKER OF FINE custom made stocks & Beavertail fore-arms to your dems. Telescopes mounted, fine artistic checkering, general repair on all type of guns. Muzzle loaders repairs, parts made for any make of gun, 30 years in business. 50945 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth 12, Michigan. Telephone Plymouth 853W12. 2-47

MODERN ARMS PROMPTLY AND SKILLFULLY repaired. Fine stocking and checkering. Moderate prices. Send work express prepaid. Kimball Arms Company, Woburn, Mass. tf

BISHOP STOCKS CAN BE HAD FITTED WITH Mershon whitelined recoil pads instead of tenite butt plates at $4.00 extra. E. C. Bishop & Son, Warsaw, Missouri. tf

STEEL PISTOL GRIP CAPS POLISHED AND blued $1.00. Krag actions, good condition, complete $12.00. Wurzer & Peterson, 5239 No. Fifth Street, Philadelphia 20, Penna.

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FINE WALNUT, WISCONSIN OR OREGON maple stock blanks. All guaranteed. Principal Wood Supplier to the Late Alvin Linden. Howard Clark, Stevens Point, Wisconsin.

NEW RIFLE SCOPES, K2.5 WEAVER $38.50; K4 Weaver $44.00; 12x Fecker 1½" coated, $90.00; Fecker 1⅛" 8x and 10x, coated $70.00; Targetspot, converted super 12x, excellent, #2 Lee Dots $75.00; Malcolm 10x, Malcolm mounts, excellent $25.00; Winchester 5A good $20.00; 5x Russian, coated 26½ mm. tube $40.00; Stith mount W-70, K2.5 Q.E.D. $17.50; 10 x 80 binocular, excellent $100.00, with tripod $175.00. German B.C. scope, case, new 12x $75.00. Aurands, 229 East Third St., Lewistown, Penna.

GUNSMITH'S SPECIAL: NEW COMBINATION Grinder-Buffers, 3 phase pedestal types with one wide spindle, each complete with 8" grinding wheel, wire brush wheel and eye-shields, product of nationally known mfgr. at sacrifice prices while they last. ½ H.P. $77.00; ¾ H.P. $83.50 f.o.b. Driver Equipment Co., 1152 Valencia St., San Francisco 10, California.

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## A LIFETIME XMAS GIFT FOR SHOOTERS

# X-RING CENTRIFUGAL BULLET TRAP

*Make him happy! Let him safely enjoy his favorite sport indoors, use his pet "hog-leg" or rifle, day or night, rain or shine.*

### A PERMANENT GIFT THAT WILL BE APPRECIATED

X-Ring Centrifugal Bullet Traps will render a lifetime of faithful service in SAFETY and CONVENIENCE.

### A COMPLETE, LIGHTED RANGE INSTANTLY

Set up the X-Ring in garage, amusement room, living room, basement, or attic. It's clean, safe, and always ready for use. Two minutes disassembles when through using.

### POSITIVE SAFETY—NO DANGER

THE ONLY BACKSTOP equipped with the famous Centrifugal Trap with its positive freedom from DANGEROUS BACK SPATTER at close ranges when using light or heavy calibres. ONLY BACKSTOP that has a heavy wall of metal between the bullet and shooter at the point of bullet disintegration. Don't let him continue taking chances!

Write for circular explaining this and other safety features of X-Ring Centrifugal Bullet Traps over conventional backstops.

**X-RING PRODUCTS CO.** **R. R. 1, Peoria, Illinois**

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# A BOX CAN TELL TALES

It's just a box—the presentation box furnished with Blackinton medals—but it speaks volumes in demonstrating the quality of Blackinton awards.

Our boxes have costly extra features that we know a winner will like. They have color and dignity—a perfect setting for their contents. They have durability and will always look clean and fresh.

In ways like this we are constantly building leadership for distinctive Blackinton awards.

**V. H. BLACKINTON & CO., INC.**

***Manufacturers of Quality Insignia Since 1852***

**ATTLEBORO FALLS MASSACHUSETTS**

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# GUNSMITH SUPPLIES

**Muzzle crowning hand cut rotary files, ball shaped, fast-cutting, time-saving prior to finishing with brass balls. High speed steel, ¼" shank, comes in coarse and fine cut.**

| Diam. | Price each |
|---|---|
| ⅜" | Coarse $1.50, Fine $1.85 |
| ½" | Coarse 1.80, Fine 2.20 |
| ⅝" | Coarse 2.00, Fine 2.45 |

**Muzzle crowning brass balls: 7/16", 9/16" and 11/16" diam., price each ........ $ .75**

**Set of 3 ........ 2.00**

**Sight reamer, each ........ $1.25**

**Chamber cast metal, low melting 117° F. and pouring 210° F. Far superior to sulphur mix. Won't disform when dropped, stands rough handling, can be used over again. Price per pound ........ $1.25**

**Primer pocket brushes, steel & brass, each ........ $ .25**

**Pyrometer, portable lance or prode, duo scale 0 to 1000° F. and 0 to 2000° F., including thermocouple, each .... $32.50**

**Pyrometer for wall or panel mounting ........ $17.50**

**All prices F.O.B. N. Y.**

**FRANK MITTERMEIER**

*Gunsmith Supplies*

**3577 E. Tremont Ave. Bronx 61, N. Y.**

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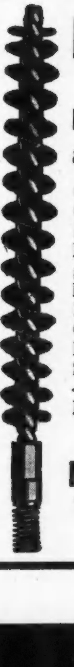
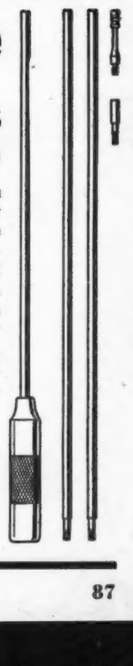


# Mill-Rose

## GUN BRUSHES and RODS

Combination Gun Cleaning Rods for Rifles. All-Calibre Revolver Rods. Shotgun Rods. Swivel handle. All-Duralumin. Jointed. Gun Cleaning Brushes for Rifles, Revolvers, Shotguns in all sizes — Phosphor Bronze, Bristle or Nylon.

**THE MILL-ROSE CO.**
**1987 East 59th St.**
**Cleveland 3**

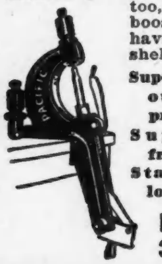


# Reloaders! Get the best!

**"PACIFIC" Tools, Powder Measures, Scales, etc.,** have been used for many years—they are **PROVEN** products. It always pays to get the **BEST,** especially for reloading!

## "PACIFIC" TOOL

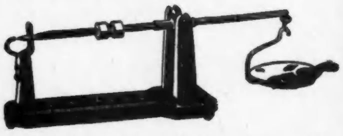
More than 10,000 in use. You must have something good when you have that many satisfied customers. You, too, will be a **"Pacific"** booster as soon as you have loaded a hundred shells.



**Super Tool without automatic priming device $34.50**
**Super Tool, frame only . . . 17.50**
**Standard Reloading Tool . . 27.50**

## "PACIFIC" SCALE

The **"Pacific"** scale is made especially for reloaders. It is super-accurate—it is sensitive to one-tenth of a grain.



Complete with weights, **$8.50.** We can make immediate delivery on "Pacific" Scales.

**PACIFIC GUN SIGHT CO.**
**353 Hayes St., San Francisco (2), California**

PACIFIC GUN SIGHT CO.

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# GUNSMITHS!

**Are you looking for hard-to-get parts? We have them.**

***Immediate delivery on parts for following guns:***

**Luger, P38, Colt, Spanish, Smith & Wesson and others.**

**Rem. mod. 10, Rem. mod. 11, Win. mod. 12, Win. mod. 97, American Gun Co., many other obsolete makes. Stocks for Ithaca 37. Write for complete list.**

**SCARAMUZZO & SONS, INC.**
**GUNSMITHS**
**601 So. Halsted Street Chicago 7, Ill.**

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# FELLOW SHOOTERS!

I wish to take this opportunity to thank each and every one for your patronage while at Camp Perry. It is true we were not in a position to supply your full requirements, but your understanding gave me the assurance that when hard-to-get items are again available, you will again call on us. Thank you and good shooting.

Francis J. O'Hare.

**P. J. O'HARE**
**Importer-Manufacturer**
***Shooting Accessories Exclusively***
**552 Irvington Avenue Maplewood, N. J.**

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# RELOADING EQUIPMENT

**Dbl. Cavity Bullet Molds with handles, $8.00**
**Potter Electric Furnaces at $15.00, $17.00 & $19.50**
**Jordan Reloading Press $24.25; Rifle Dies $14.75; Pistol Dies $12.00**
**Moopos Sizer & Lubricator $18.50; Extra Dies $4.25**
**224 cal. Speer Bullets in 40, 45, 50 & 55 grains at 2.25 per C**
**Gas Checks, all calibers at $1.75 per M**
**10X Shooting Jackets at $10.00 & $12.00**
**Argus Super Grade Spotting Scopes $74.50**
**Lyman Alaskan $50.00; Weaver $38.00 & $44.00**
**22 Caliber Match Ammunition at $11.88 per M**
**Remington—Winchester Shotguns & Rifles**
**S & W Pistols—Factory Ammunition**

**PHILBRICK'S GUN SHOP**
**705 N. Elm Ave. Portsmouth, Va.**

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J. UNERTL
OPT. CO.
"THE MARK OF OPTICAL EXCELLENCE"

Precision Rifle Telescopes better than ever, coated of course, available now. More and additional new products as we go along. Keep in touch by asking your dealer or us for catalog or advice.

**J. UNERTL OPTICAL CO.**
**3551-55 EAST ST., PITTSBURGH 14, PA.**

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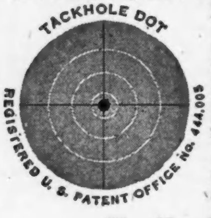
# TACKHOLE DOT

**The Center Dot by Lee is definitely superior to any other reticule; that is the opinion of many thousands of big game hunters, vermin and target shooters who have used it now for nine years. K 2.5 Weavers already equipped, $46.50; K 4, $52.00; Alaskans, $62.50. All hard coated lenses. Stith and Redfield or Williams mounts for 70 and 99. Free illustrated folder. Argus Spotting Scopes, $74.50.**


TACKHOLE DOT
REGISTERED U. S. PATENT OFFICE No. 444,005

**T. K. LEE**
**P. O. Box 2123 Birmingham 1, Alabama**

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# GUN CASES

We offer for immediate shipment NEW U. S. ARMY PARACHUTIST Gun Cases suitable for takedown Shotguns and Rifles. 10" x 39" over-all measurement. O. D. Heavy Canvas, thickly padded, strongly reinforced. Double handle, with extra duty, full length zipper. POSTPAID . . . . . **$3.75**

**PARKER-WHELEN CO. 827 14th St., N.W., Wash. 5, D.C.**

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A NEW LINE OF BISHOP STOCKS WILL BE manufactured by an entirely new system of manufacturing and shaping. This new principle will give the shooter a stock completely finished as to shape. Outside of stock finished very smooth. Inside cuts for action and barrel will be completely finished. No hand fitting necessary. Shape of stock has also been improved. Improved tenite fittings. At present the stocks wil be made only for the M98 Mauser, U. S. 1917 Enfield and 1903 Springfield. More will be added to this list in time. Price of $16.50 will include stock kit of stock finish, sand paper, and complete instructions for finishing Orders accepted now. Shipment will be made in about six weeks. Detailed description on request. E. C. Bishop & Son, Warsaw, Missouri.

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RICHARDS SPORT STORE, 514 WEST GURLEY, Prescott, Arizona, offers custom gunsmithing. Fred Wells, formerly of Butte, Montana, in charge. Equipped to make Bull Pups, prompt attention given mail orders. (Write for prices.)

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GUNSTOCKER'S TOOLS, HANDCRAFTED, checkering tools, V-Edgers, Rifflers, $1.00 each, $2.75 set, directions. Magazine Mortiser, $1.00. C. L. Frantz, 625 No. 22nd Street, Allentown, Penna.

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CUSTOM STOCKS, MILITARY CONVERSIONS, write wants for prices. Jim Winton, Cherry Grove, Oregon.

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BARREL BLANKS, LIMITED NUMBER AVAILable. Made by Joe Pfeifer, .22, .25, .270, 7mm., .30, 1¼" diam., $21.50 each. Johnson's Gun Shop, 114 East Slauson Ave., Rivera, California.

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BULLETS IN STOCK—SPEER 45-50-55 GR. $2.60. Sisk 50 gr. Lovell $1.75. Dupont powder $1.70. 1" or 1¼" swivels, 50¢ set. 1" and 1¼" straps $1.95. Aurands, 229 East Third St., Lewistown, Penna.

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SCHMIDT'S RASP $3.50. THANKS SHOOTERS for your patience, now we have solved our problems, adj. inletting rasps ready for immediate shipment, one or a hundred. Fast Striker Springs—Enfield, Springfield and Mauser $1.00. Quantity discount to gunsmiths. Schmidt & Davis, 3347 San Fernando Road, Los Angeles 41, California.

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CUSTOM RIFLE AND SHOTGUN WORK—MILItary to sporter conversions, special stock work for hard to fit shooters, bluing, fine wood carving for stocks and foregrips, ivory and silver inlays, folder on request with prices and services. S. P. Leeper, Mineola, Texas.

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12" VIXEN FILES, NEEDED BY EVERYONE working down military barrels before refinishing, $2.40 value, $1.50 each, 6 for $7.50. Hollow wood carving chisels, long bent #17 Addis pattern, ½" and ⅝", 5¼" blade, 10" over all, best quality, $1.25 each, 6 for $6.50 postpaid. J. W. Eatman, Cuero, Texas.

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SELECT M98 MAUSER ACTIONS FITTED WITH sporting barrels in 22-250, 250-3000, .257, .270, 7mm. and 30-06, properly assembled, proper headspace, test fired, not blued, no stock or sights, $60.00 each. Any of these outfits can be had fitted with either Alaskan or Weaver K scopes in Redfield Jr. mounts, at list price, fitted free. Alteration of bolt handle, and low safety if wanted would be $6.00, and $5.00 respectively. I can use your extra Mauser actions or parts in trade on these jobs. I am now working from temporary shop quarters, while my new shop is being erected. My home address is Rt. #3, Box 297-A, Charleston, West Virginia. Send all mail there. Send all actions, or parts to my shop address, which is G. R. Douglas, Box 773, Belle, West Virginia.

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SEND US YOUR GUNS FOR EXCELLENT' BLUing. Prompt service. Pistols, $5.00. Revolvers, $6.00. Rifles-shotguns, $7.50. Military conversion starting at $18.50 on Enfield, Springfield, Mauser, Krag. Bob Sands, 211 Montrose Ave., Syracuse 4, New York.

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REBARRELING ALL CALIBERS WITH BUHmiller barrels. Bluing, scopes and sights mounted, bolts altered. Lewis Gun Shop, 814 Main St., Towanda, Penna. Successor to Wilcox Machine Shop.

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NEW SPRINGFIELD RIFLE PARTS, SERVICE barrels, Springfield armory 1942, $10.00. Sniper bolts, designed for scope use, $5.00. Trigger guards (machined, not stampings), $2.75. Send for free list of all parts. John P. Gschwind, 4124 No. Leamington Ave., Chicago 41, Illinois.

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FANCY STOCKS AND CHECKERING, BLUING by 2 bath system. .22-250 custom built, new scopes, mounts Nydar shotgun sights. Work guaranteed. Send for folder. Mesicks Gun Shop, Dundee, Illinois. tf

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YOUR MAUSER OR ENFIELD CONVERTED TO .270 or 30-06. Custom stocking, bluing and general gunsmithing done expertly, reasonably, and promptly. Write to Ben's Gun Shop, Ambler, Penna.

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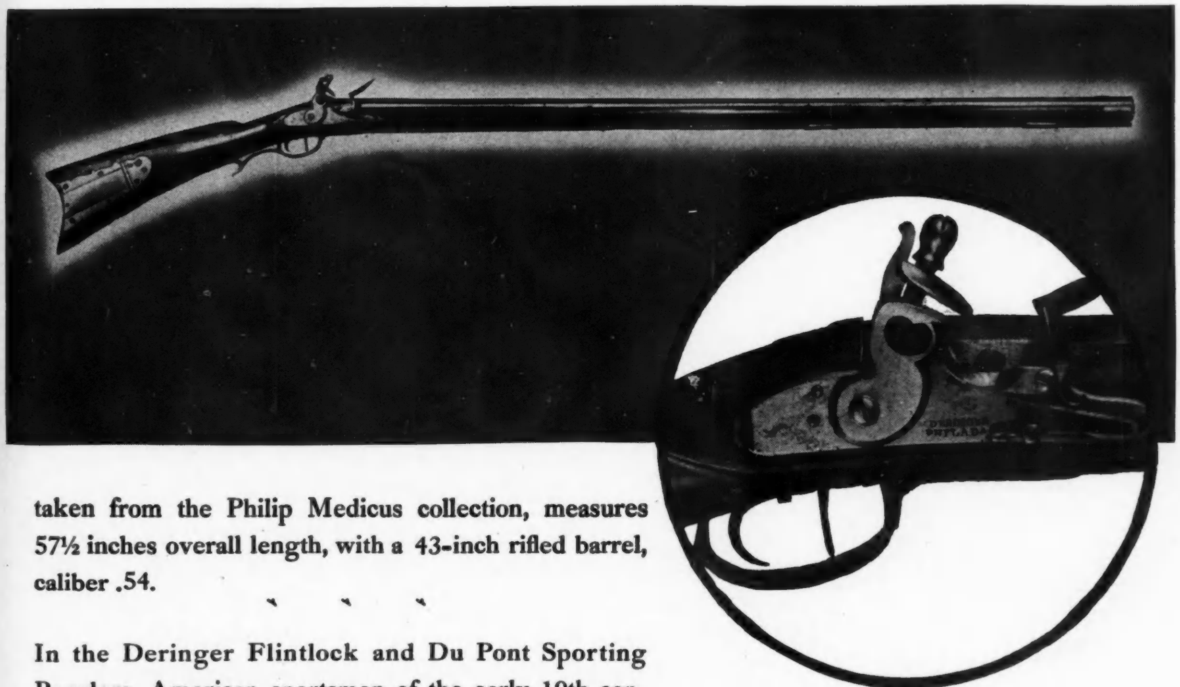
# GRAND OLD FAVORITES

## *Famous American*

## DERINGER FLINTLOCK

Early in the 1800's, Henry Deringer of Philadelphia introduced one of his famous muzzle-loading flintlocks. This gun was designed especially for target or hunting use, with a double-set trigger, octagonal barrel and a full-length pin-fastened stock. The Deringer Flintlock below, taken from the Philip Medicus collection, measures 57½ inches overall length, with a 43-inch rifled barrel, caliber .54.

*This powder flask, one of the earliest of American make, has an adjustable spring top. By setting its nozzle, a predetermined amount of powder is released for pouring into the barrel.*



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In the Deringer Flintlock and Du Pont Sporting Powders, American sportsmen of the early 19th century found a "favorite" combination. For this good gun and dependable powder simplified the tasks of hunting food and self-protection.

*Help protect game . . . and support your national and local organizations for game conservation and restoration.*

**E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & CO. (Inc.)**
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**Better Things for Better Living . . . *Through Chemistry***

# DU PONT SPORTING POWDERS

*World-Famous Since 1802*

PRESS OF JUDD & DETWEILER, INC., WASHINGTON, D. C.

# LOOKS LIKE THE WEAKER SEX IS GOING STRONG

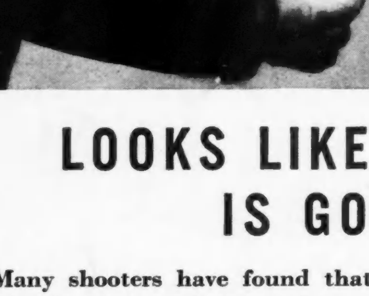
**Many shooters have found that their wives become excellent marksmen. That they enjoy a lot of fun together on the rifle range.**

**Why not bring this idea up in your own circle of shooters? Get the gang to invite the wives and 'teen-agers out to the range for an afternoon of shooting and picnicking. You'll be surprised, as others have been, by the scores the novices turn in, by the enthusiasm that crops out.**

**When you start to show beginners the ropes, remind them that for all 'round shooting Western Xpert 22's are both accurate and economical. You know that for close competition, experts rely on the world-famous Super-Match Mark II cartridge. Western Cartridge Company, East Alton, Illinois, Division of Olin Industries, Inc.**

*FOR THE AMBITIOUS BEGINNER*
*Choose a Winchester Standard Model 75 Target Rifle. An excellent arm for women shooters, 'teen-agers—all beginners. It is equipped with adjustable leather gun sling, Lyman No. 58E receiver sight with target disc and peep aperture, and the new Winchester No. 105A quick detachable front sight with post and disc aperture. Several other special sight combinations available.*

**PREFERRED BY EXPERTS**



**HELP...**
**SALVAGE LEAD**
**Clean out your "backstops" and *sell the scrap lead to your local scrap metal dealer.* That will help everybody because today, supplies of lead are so short that cartridge production must be curtailed.**

**Western**
WORLD CHAMPION AMMUNITION

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